

IF YOU FIND

COMFORT unless you renew your subscription at once.

an Envelope Folder Renewal Blank wrapped inside this paper, it means that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS EXPIRED and you will NOT receive January

COMFORT

*The Key to Business and Success
in over 100,000,000 American Homes*

DEVOTED TO ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND THE HOME CIRCLE.
VOL. XXIV

NO. 2



DECEMBER
1911

'Under the Mistletoe'

PUBLISHED AT
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Copyright 1911 (Trade-Mark Registered), by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated

of that which follows.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.)

IN & AROUND The HOME

CONDUCTED BY MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON

Terms Used in Crochet

Ch. chain; ch. st. chain stitch; s. c. single crochet; d. c. double crochet (thread over once); tr. c. treble crochet (thread over twice); dtr. double treble crochet (thread over three times); l. c. long crochet; r. st. roll stitch; l. loop; p. picot; r. p. roll picot; sl. st. slip stitch; k. st. knot stitch; sta. stitches; blk. block; spa. spaces; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Terms Used in Tatting

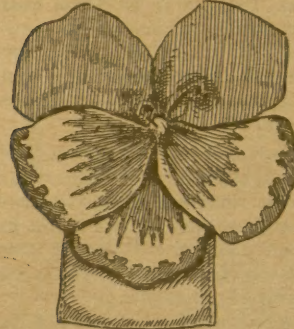
D. s. double stitch; p. picot; l. p. long picot; ch. chain; d. k. double knot; pkt. picot and knot together. * indicates a repetition.

Last Minute Gifts

THE last few years much has been said and written about the true spirit of Christmas-giving being lost in the monetary value of gifts. When this is the case, and we strive to make a fair exchange, rather than to exchange simple remembrances, Christmas-giving is liable to become too much of a drain on our purses. For this reason we emphasize at every opportunity the making of attractive gifts, little, perhaps in themselves, but great in measure of the kindly thought prompting them.

Sachets

Ribbons play an important part in fashioning many of these dainty trifles. Novel sachets can easily be made and are always acceptable.

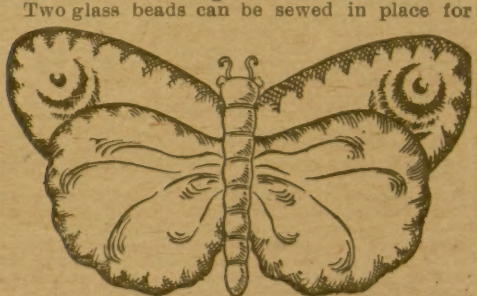


PANSY SACHET.

One in the shape of a pansy, the flower meaning thought, is especially pretty and requires only a few minutes to complete and a very little ribbon. Only ten inches of lavender ribbon an inch and one half wide and five of purple the same width. Cut off four and one half inches of the lavender and of the rest make a bag two and one half inches long, fill with cotton and a little sachet, gather the top closely and turn the end down over the bag. Now add the four-inch piece of lavender ribbon and also the purple, gather both pieces in the center and sew in place with gold thread, thus forming the five petals of a pansy. Tint the edges and the centers of the lavender petals with dark purple, white and a little yellow near the center. Either oil or good water colors can be used; a fine brush will be best and the colors should be worked in from the center outward.

Butterfly Sachet

Nine inches of white satin ribbon two and one half inches wide can also be quickly worked up into a handsome butterfly sachet. Sprinkle a generous amount of sachet powder on a small piece of sheet wadding, then roll up and sew together; this roll can be about as large as one's third finger. Next cover with ribbon, sewing it securely on what will be the under side, then cross every quarter inch with embroidery silk, drawing the threads a little closer each time, so as to graduate slightly from the head to the tail, the body when finished being about the size of one's little finger.



BUTTERFLY SACHET.

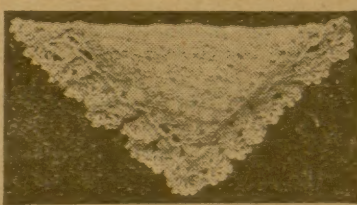
Two glass beads can be sewed in place for eyes and a small wire hairpin bent and fastened underneath to represent the antennae.

Paints are also used to tint these edges, and if one is something of an artist the decoration can be as elaborate as desired, although a very pretty effect can be obtained by simply tinting with two of three shades of one color.

After the wings are dry, gather up somewhat in the center and sew to the body of the butterfly.

Sachet in Plain Crochet

This dainty little sachet is easily made as the stitches are of the simplest and the shaping is nothing. A simple square piece of crochet is folded across the corners and the border crocheted through the two sides for one-half and only on one side for the other half so that there is an opening to stuff with cotton which is sprinkled with sachet powder.



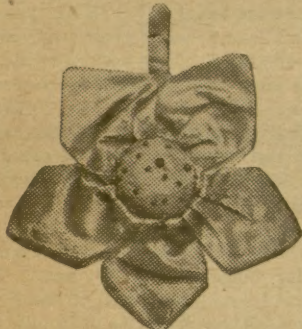
SACHET IN PLAIN CROCHET.

In detail it is like this: Chain 45 stitches. A shell of 6 doubles separated in the middle with 3 chain, worked in the 4th chain from needle (all the shells the same), a shell in next 6th chain; repeat until there are 7 shells in the end, work a treble to make an even edge.

2nd row.—Ch. 3 (shell in center of shell), to the end. On edge a treble or long double to keep edge even. Repeat this row 11 times if silk finish cotton or silk is used as this will make a square. Double across and make same kind of shells across the two sides as directed before. In the next row make three chain picots between each double of shells. Stuff and sew up with needle.

Pincushions

These ever useful little articles are sure to be appreciated by any busy woman who has not the time to make for herself.



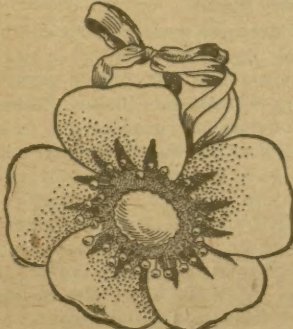
WILD ROSE PINCUSHION.

For this one will require one yard of two and one half inch satin ribbon of a delicate pink shade, half yard of green No. 2 width, and a small cushion for the center covered with a pale yellow. Make this first, then surround it with five loops of the pink ribbon, the corners of which should be folded back and caught in place. Cover the back of the cushion with a rosette bow of the green ribbon, leaving one loop long to hang up by.

Poppy Cushion

Another cushion which is showy and effective is a copy of a California Poppy.

For this, white felt was used for the petals which were tinted a flaming orange, and then sewed around a small green silk cushion, the outer edge of which was washed with darker green points which extend on to the petals. Finish the back with narrow green ribbon and add plenty of black-headed pins stuck in closely around the edge of the cushion.



POPPY CUSHION.

Doll Head Pincushion

This pretty little novelty made with a doll's head can easily be copied by crocheters. Secure a head which has holes in it to sew to a body or if there are none, they can be punched in a bisque head with small wire nails.



DOLL HEAD PINCUSHION.

Cover two five-inch circles of cardboard with silk or velvet and sew the head over the middle of it through the holes. It is now ready to be dressed.

The cap is to be stuffed with cotton in the point which makes the cushion for the pins. When Germantown yarn is used for the cap any part will hold pins. The doll in the design is dressed with the yarn. For the cap begin with thirty-two loose chain. On this a fancy stitch is made.

1st row.—A single in second chain (now take up three loops on the needle through the next three chain as in Afghan stitch, yarn over and draw through one loop, yarn over and draw through two loops, yarn over and draw through two loops, yarn over and draw through last two loops, now one chain and a single in with the last stitch where the third loop came through), repeat this to the end; it will make ten cone-shaped stitches.

2nd row.—Ch. 1, a s. c. in the lower loop of each stitch making 31 s. c. in row. Repeat the first row and the second until five fancy rows are made then crochet the two sides to make a peaked little cap. Stuff with cotton and pin on head.

For the cape begin with ch. 24 around neck. 1st row.—1 s. c. in second ch. (in next ch. a s. c. a d. c. and a single again, this begins the ribs, s. c. in next stitch) repeat to end which

starts 11 ribs, ending with one single alone.

2nd row.—Work loose and fluffy. Ch. 1, under the d. c. on rib work 3 d. c., do it by going under the double on its side away from you, you turn over the lower side toward you so that the double lays about straight right and left, then you stick down under or around it and make the 3 d. c. (Every 2nd row the rib or shell is made around a double in this way). Next a s. c. between rib. Alternate to the end.

3rd row.—Ch. 1, 4 d. c. around the center double of the three, this time you do not turn the work but stick from the right to the left side under the double and make the four through here. This makes the heavy ribs. Every second row the ribs are worked in this way. Next a single between ribs. Alternate to the end.

4th row.—Like the 2nd but use 5 d. cs. and make it around the 2nd last of the 4 d. c.

5th row.—Like the 3rd row but use 6 d. cs. made in the center d. c. of the five.

6th row.—Like the 2nd but use 7 d. cs. in the 3rd last of the 6 d. c.

7th row.—Like the 3rd row but use 8 d. cs. in the center of the seven and also make a three chain picot between each double for a finish.

Fancy Hatpin Holder

An excellent way to utilize an old cocoa box is shown in this illustration. Or if one of these is not handy the center of a wide ribbon roll or even a piece of buckram may be used as the foundation. First cover the top with a double thickness of coarse net; for the sides and bottom a piece of almost any pretty material may be used. Over this cross inch-wide satin ribbons bowing up as shown. The top and bottom of the holder illustrated was finished with a gilt guimpe.

Paper and Twine Bag

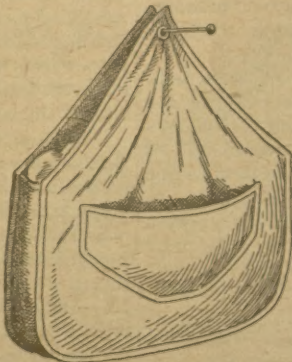
Bags of all kinds are always favorite gifts, but here is one which is seldom selected, although I would not be surprised if many young housekeepers would welcome one, as they are always needed.

It is a wrapping paper and twine bag. For material choose something strong, which will be serviceable as well as pretty, a cretonne is perhaps best. Two pieces, the shape shown will be needed. These should measure thirteen inches wide by twenty-two long from the bottom to the point.

Sew a small pocket for the twine seven by ten inches in size to the center of one piece, then join into a bag by a straight strip four inches wide. Bind all seams and edges and finish by working two good-sized eyelet holes in the points.

To intimate friends may be given many simple little gifts which one knows will be appreciated. An extra nice quire of paper and envelopes in a pretty box, or a cake of favorite soap or perfume are always needed trifles sure of a welcome.

A package of interesting stories, or clippings about mutual acquaintances and a collection



PAPER AND TWINE BAG.



SLEEVE PROTECTORS.

of snap shots of home folks can be sent a friend who is away from home.

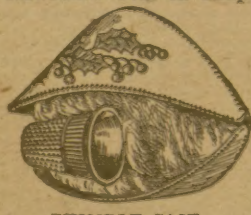
Last year a lady gave all her married friends some little household necessity which she had noticed was lacking. Several generous kitchen aprons were made, some jelly bags, two rag bags, one for white and one for colored rags for a young lady about to be married, and also half-a-dozen pair of sleeve protectors of prettily colored handkerchiefs. These were folded corner-wise and seamed up on the under side as shown in our illustration.

On the market there are numerous little patented articles which may be purchased for 25 or 50 cents, such as a little aluminum clothes sprinkler which fits into an ordinary bottle, a cream beater which does the work quickly and without splashing, measuring spoons and cups, special graters etc., any of which make choice Christmas tokens if thought is used in presenting the right article to the right person.

Thimble Case

The following neat little case makes an attractive gift.

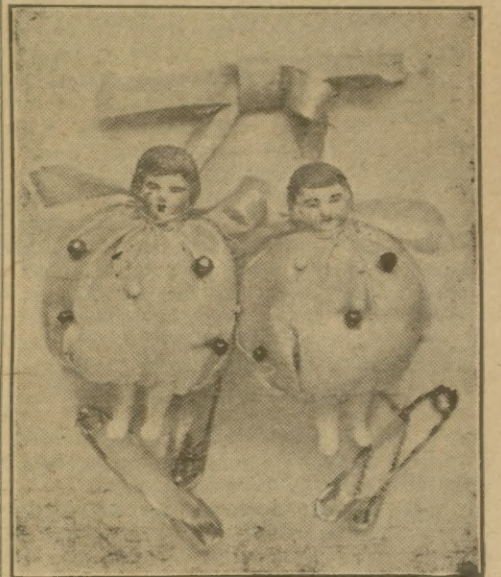
Cut three pieces of cardboard oval in shape but rather pointed at the ends; a flatiron serves as a good pattern, but the pieces should measure only an inch and a quarter or a half from end to end. Cover one side of each piece with velvet and line with silk; a brown decorated with a holly sprig is pretty, line with red silk or sateen. Join the three pieces together to form a three-sided case, leaving one side open, but taking a few stitches from either end. To open the case simply press at the ends. Such a case as this would be acceptable for an invalid friend who enjoys needlework.



THIMBLE CASE.

Siamese Twins

Two tiny penny dolls, twelve inches of two-inch ribbon, a yard of baby ribbon, a little cotton and sachet and a few pins will be needed to make this little gift. Cut the ribbon in half and gather both selvages, draw the string of one edge up around the dolls' necks.



SIAMESE TWINS.

Seam up the ends of the ribbon, then fill with perfumed cotton, and draw up the other string closely about the dolls' necks. Tie a bit of narrow ribbon about the dolls' necks, making a couple of long loops in which can be fastened safety pins of various sizes. Fill the cushions with black-and-white headed pins and complete by adding ribbon for hanging.

Necktie Holder

The general complaint at Christmas is the difficulty of finding useful and inexpensive presents for the men folks. They get tired of being showered with handkerchiefs, neckties and cravat cases over which hours may have been spent; they are usually regarded with grateful admiration, and then put away in some out-of-the-way place to be forgotten, while the neckties are still tossed into a drawer or hung over the mirror.

The preference of one girl's brother for using the arm of the gas jet for his neckties, set her to thinking and the result was the holder here shown. It can be very quickly made of three wooden embroidery hoops and a piece of No. 2 ribbon.

Wind the ribbon round and round a hoop, overlapping the edges until the ring is completely covered, then start the second hoop, winding the ribbon over both a few times or until they are firmly fastened together, then continue as before. Add the third hoop and fill the open space thus formed with a small three-cornered cushion. This is convenient for stick pins, while neckties can be hung up in a jiffy and also quickly selected, as one's whole collection is in sight, and this seems to be what is wanted.



NECKTIE HOLDER.

Book Covers

For a book lover, either man or woman these are appropriate and pleasing presents. Brown linen embroidered or stenciled, or chamois leather, decorated by a burnt-in monogram and border make handsome covers. A book mark of the same material might also be included.

Egg Cozy

These charming little novelties can be made of small bits of felt or flannel.

Either white or gray for the head and red for the comb. Cut two pieces for the head and sew the comb in the seam at the top. Paint the bills a deep yellow, around the eye and the front red outlined with black and the eye black. If you wish to make them rather more elaborate, line with red, but no lining is really needed. For handling hot eggs or keeping the same warm, they are fine, and a half dozen or more makes a cute and useful present.



EGG COZY.

Christmas Packages

Little gifts however simple, should always be carefully wrapped. For who does not like to receive a dainty looking parcel wrapped in white paper and tied with a bit of bright colored ribbon. Our heart goes out to the sender of such, and we give it, perhaps, a warmer greeting than we would the same gift were it wrapped in crumpled paper tied with a string. Boxes are desirable, for besides keeping the contents in good condition, they help to set them off or frame them, as it were, and better looking packages can also be made. If not too large, ribbon can also be used on the outside.

It is a pretty idea to use white paper, red ribbon and under the bow slip a sprig of holly. The bright red and green show off to advantage against the white background and will repay one for the extra trouble and slight expense.

A Few Words by the Editor

O Peace! thou source and soul of social life;
Beneath whose calm inspiring influence,
Science his views enlarges, Art refines,
And swelling Commerce opens all her ports;
Blessed be the man divine, who gives us thee!

THIS is the month in which we celebrate the greatest festival of Christendom, the birth of the Christ Child—the Prince of Peace. Nearly two thousand years have elapsed since the angels o'er Bethlehem hymned that heavenly message to the world—Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men.

For thousands of years men have been dreaming and longing for the time to come when wars should cease, the battle flags be furled and the sword sheathed forever. Men have cried peace, peace, in a world in which there was no peace. Even the nations that call themselves Christian and worship the Prince of Peace, continue to make war an industry.

The Christian world, even today, is armed to the teeth, and Europe is one vast armed camp. What is true of nations is also true of communities and individuals. In one county in a southern state, more than fifty murders were committed last year. Probably nearly all of the murderers would have shot down in his tracks anyone who would have dared to suggest that they were savages not Christians.

But though Europe is an armed camp, and though the expenditure on armies and navies of every nation in the world increases with frightful strides every year, the national blood lust has happily been growing less and less. Yes, even though Italy is fighting Turkey for the possession of Tripoli and civil war with all its horrors is raging in China and Portugal.

Nations as well as individuals are becoming more and more reluctant to settle their disputes by the arbitrament of the sword. The old idea of the pomp, glory and circumstance of war, war the sport and pastime of kings, war the theme of minstrel and poet, is forever past. War today has been unmasked, and stripped of its gaudy trappings. We see it revealed in its true light, a ghastly skeleton, a gaunt, hideous, repulsive specter, whose creaking bones are dripping with the blood of a billion victims.

Men know what war is today. They know it is hell. They know that even the victor must suffer as horribly as the vanquished. The nations know that their strong battalions are comprised, not of ignorant professional cutthroats, but of intelligent citizens, men who serve their country, either from a high sense of duty, inability to obtain other employment, or through the compulsion of conscription; men who are workers and artisans in uniform, not professional soldiers; men who have no quarrel with the toilers of other nations, and who have but one desire and that is to be under the family roof tree with their kith and kin, at peace with all the world.

It will thus be easily seen that the time was ripe for a movement on the part of public-spirited men to bring about an understanding between the nations by which all disputes could be settled by arbitration, even those disputes which involve so-called "national honor", and war made forever a thing of the past.

This world-wide desire for the settlement of national disputes by methods other than the sword, resulted in the founding of an international court of arbitration at the Hague. This was the first great step towards realizing the dreams of centuries; the overture to the great peace drama, which will eventually turn the sword into a plowshare, and the spear into a pruning hook; the preliminary flutter of the wings of the dove of eternal peace over the camps of a martial and belligerent universe.

The Hague court of arbitration was a splendid beginning, in that by agreement of the great nations a tribunal was

established for the settlement of international controversies, and it has been used successfully for that purpose; but the weak point is that it is optional to use it or not, for even the nations which agreed to the establishment of the Hague tribunal would not agree to submit their disputes to it unless as each case arose it pleased both parties to do so.

At last, however, thanks to the efforts of valiant workers for peace, the preliminaries for arbitration treaties have been signed by the representatives of the United States, Great Britain and France, agreeing that all disputes, even affronts to so-called national honor, shall be settled by arbitration, and not by sword, and other nations, including Japan, have signified their willingness to make similar treaties with the United States. The U. S. Senate has thus far declined to approve these arbitration treaties in their present form on the ground that they are too broad in that they might subject the internal affairs and purely domestic policy of the United States to regulation by foreign powers through arbitration, which, of course, can never be permitted. It is pointed out, for instance, that Japan or China might object to our immigration laws and demand that the dispute be submitted to arbitration. This would give a foreign court the power to decide whether or not we should admit undesirable foreign immigrants to our country, and might even compel us not only to let in the barbarous hordes of Asia but even to give them full citizenship by extending to them the same privileges of naturalization that we give to the most enlightened peoples of Europe. Even with England and France such treaties would be dangerous, for both these countries have in their Asiatic and African provinces many millions of degraded subjects unfit for American citizenship. The welfare and very existence of this country would be endangered by any treaty that gave a foreign tribunal any power over our immigration, naturalization, or other laws governing our own internal affairs, and in guarding this point the Senate is right in insisting that the pending arbitration treaties shall be so altered and amended as to remove all shadow of doubt on this question. We want peace with all nations, but not at the price of sacrificing any portion of our national independence or of surrendering to a foreign court any powers of government within the boundaries of the United States.

France, Switzerland and Portugal are republics. The British government is a democracy under the form of a monarchy in which the King has no power and the people govern much more directly and effectively than in the United States. We have still much to accomplish before our government is as responsive to the will, and as desirous of legislating for the masses of the people, as are the governments of France and England. With Germany a republic, as it will probably be within the next generation, owing to the fact that forty-seven per cent, practically about half of its voting population, are socialists, the contagion of democracy will quickly spread to the rest of Europe and world peace will follow, for the toilers of the world have no quarrels, at least none that cannot be arbitrated, and gradually conscription and militarism, a burden reluctantly borne by millions, whose one ambition is to be left alone to pursue their peaceful avocations in the fields of art and commerce, will be abolished.

The wars now in progress will materially retard, but cannot stay the irresistible movement for universal peace, which has been initiated by the three most progressive countries in the world, the United States, England and France.

So let us all take heart on the anniversary of the birth of the Prince of Peace. The world is turning from the loathsome, hateful savagery of war, to the fair and smiling fields of peace. Christ's teachings have not been in vain. They have been a long

time in bringing about the splendid results of which we have just spoken, but what may seem to us like an interminable period of time, is but a day to that Higher Power which shapes the destinies of nations, rough hew them as they may.

And now, dear friends, just one word in conclusion. The year is drawing to a close; 1911 will have passed into the shadows ere the writer greets you again. We have tried in the year that is closing to make every issue of COMFORT as helpful, interesting and inspiring as possible, and every effort that we have put forth has, we feel confident, had your endorsement and hearty approval. The bond of sympathy that exists between COMFORT's makers and its readers, we are happy to say, grows stronger with every passing year. It heartens us to know that in our fight for better conditions you are not only with us in spirit, but actually standing shoulder to shoulder with us on the firing line.

This year, thanks to your splendid efforts, we have given away almost twice as many wheel chairs as we did in any previous year, and we feel confident that in 1912 we shall make a still better record. What we have said of wheel chairs, applies also to our mercy work, and all our other efforts for the relief of the sick and unfortunate. Alone we can do little, with your help we can do much, in fact just how much we can do depends entirely on you. So in the coming year we trust that you will redouble your efforts to aid us in this work of love for suffering humanity.

Death and misfortune sweep from our ranks thousands every year. Their places must be filled. COMFORT is not content to stand still. We are determined to advance, but to do so we need new recruits in our reading family, new helpers, new sympathizers. It is here that you can render us invaluable assistance. There are millions of homes in this country, scores of them in your vicinity, that are Comfortless; homes that need the help, inspiration, instruction and uplift that COMFORT gives so freely and abundantly. Make your neighbors acquainted with COMFORT's merits. Point out to them that among household publications it stands alone, unique, unrivalled. Impress on your friends that no periodical in this country is doing the educational and missionary work that COMFORT is doing, and no publication is so valiantly championing the cause of the plain people.

COMFORT is broadly religious but non-sectarian, and it is possibly the greatest force for righteousness in this country, probably doing more real good than all other religious publications put together. Our religion finds its expression in deeds as well as high ideals, and the great circulation of this publication enables us to aid those who from their isolation are beyond the reach of all other streams of philanthropy.

Aid us, then, dear friends, in our work. COMFORT, with your active assistance, would easily circulate in two million homes. Every subscription to COMFORT, as we remarked last year, is a nail in the coffin of wrong and a boost to the wheels of civilization.

In helping COMFORT you are helping humanity, but your efforts need not be gratuitous; in so doing you help yourself, for the splendid premiums we give will amply reward you for every effort you put forth on our behalf, and the cash prizes we are paying are that much extra for those who win them,—why not for you?

Now, dear friends, on behalf of our publisher and staff, let me wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and the Happiest New Year that you have ever known. God speed and bless you all, and may the Christ spirit animate all your hearts, and may Santa Claus remember you and may his visit be a joyous one.

Comfort's Editor.

RUBY'S REWARD

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

keep me here to suit your purposes. But, Edmund Carpenter," Ruby continued, taking a step toward him and lifting her right hand to emphasize her words, "your friend may keep me here as long as you see fit to pay him for it; I will brave it out to the bitter end; but I forbid you to enter my presence again; I will not see you—I will have nothing whatever to say to you."

"But you cannot help yourself, Ruby, my beauty," he retorted, with a smile and with glowing eyes.

She never looked so attractive to him as when she was flushed and excited with anger.

"I can help myself, I will help myself!" she replied, sharply, and, turning abruptly from him, she walked into her bedroom, where she shut and locked the door, the key, fortunately, being in the lock.

Mr. Carpenter looked somewhat astonished at this decisive movement, and resolved to give orders to the servant who was to wait upon Ruby to secure that key the next time she came up.

But nothing could be gained from his spirited captive in her present state of mind, and he left the field very much disturbed over his ignominious failure to bring her to terms.

Ruby heard him depart with a feeling of intense relief, and then began to look about her to see in what way she could defend herself from his future visits.

"I will not be subjected to such interviews as this," she said, resolutely, "and if I will not see him, he will begin to understand that he cannot make me surrender."

Suddenly her face lighted, and going to her trunk, she took from it a large spool of wire which she sometimes used in making artificial flowers.

Armed with this, she went back to her chamber and began to wind the wire around the knob of the door, which was locked on the outside, and which she supposed led into the hall, carrying it up through a bracket to the mantel that was near, passing it back and forth again and again, drawing it as tight as she could, until she was sure the barricade was strong enough to keep out intruders. Then she moved the head of her bed up against it, and felt that with the key of the other door always in her possession, she should have a place of refuge to flee to whenever her unwelcome visitor presented himself.

At six o'clock a servant brought to the door a tempting supper upon a tray, but the poor girl was not hungry, or rather she was too wretched to eat.

She could be brave enough when Edmund Carpenter was there to arouse her antagonism, but it was very different when she found herself a solitary prisoner, and felt that she was liable to remain there indefinitely, and no one dreaming but that she was safe, happy, and contented with her friends.

Walter would miss her letters, and would wonder why she did not write. He might even go

to Forestvale to learn the reason, and would probably be told that she had either gone to Redville or Harrisburg, and would be none the wiser until his trial should come off, when she knew there must be inquiries for her. But she might not be found until it would be too late to do any good. And, with a heart bursting with grief, as all these thoughts crowded upon her, she retired at an early hour, and tried to forget her wretchedness in sleep.

CHAPTER XLI.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

Meanwhile Walter was faithfully attending to the duties devolving upon him in Chester. Mr. Conant was more than satisfied with the manner in which he had managed the contract which he had been forced, from the press of other business, to intrust him with, and was meditating a grand promotion for him, if he should desire to remain with him after his year was up.

To say that the young man was not troubled and anxious over his disagreeable situation and in view of his coming trial, would not be true; still, he was so conscious of his own rectitude, he could not but hope that he would be discharged because of insufficient evidence against him, in spite of his conviction that the whole thing was a plot of Edmund Carpenter's to ruin his character.

He visited often at Madame Howland's, for that lady seemed to entertain a strange attachment for him, and urged him to spend every spare evening with her.

He was very glad to avail himself of her invitation, for her elegant home was full of choice and interesting things, besides books in abundance. These were his especial delight, and frequently he spent an hour or more in reading aloud to madam, who appeared to very much enjoy this way of being entertained.

One evening, however, she seemed preoccupied and distraught; so much so, that Walter wondered if she were suffering more than usual from her injuries, which, by the way, were doing wonderfully well, considering how serious they had been.

He read on, appearing not to notice her inattention, until she suddenly stopped him by saying:

"Walter"—she had adopted the use of his first name, in a familiar way, as if she had known him for years, when he came back to her after his arrest—"Walter, put up your book for a while; I want you to talk to me about yourself. Tell me something of your former history."

"I thought I had told you that long ago," he said, smiling.

"Yes, you have told me how Mr. Carpenter found you, a poor boy, and took you home to educate; I know your story pretty well from that time; but I want you to go farther back than that, and tell me all that you can remember of your early childhood—of your father and

mother, and how you happened to be so destitute when your kind friend found you."

Walter flushed; he did not relish entering into details, for there were some things about his early life that touched his pride very keenly. Among other things, the fact that his father's family had discarded him and ignored his very existence because of his marriage with a poor girl.

"My mother's name was Sadie Burton before the marriage," he began.

"That's a pretty name. Tell me about her parents, and where they lived," said madam, deeply interested.

"Her parents died when she was a very young girl and her home was in one of the suburbs of New York. Her father's sister, a maiden lady, having considerable property, adopted her after she became an orphan, and it was understood that she was to inherit all that she possessed in the event of her death. Her money was mostly in bank stock, and after a few years a heavy defalcation, together with some other misfortune, swamped the institution, leaving Miss Burton almost penniless in her old age. My mother, however, had received a good education, and at once went to teaching to support herself and the aunt who had done so much for her. But her voice failed after a few months, and she was obliged to relinquish her position and go into a store in New York, where she earned barely enough to enable them to live moderately well. Here my father, who was studying mechanical engineering in the city, met her, and a short acquaintance resulted in an avowal of affection and an engagement. Miss Burton died soon after, and thus my mother was left entirely alone. I fear, however, this is but a dreary story to tell you," Walter interposed, and dreading to go on.

"No, no; go on. Let me hear the whole story," madam said, eagerly.

And he resumed:

"My father insisted upon an immediate marriage, for he said it was not fitting that she should be unprotected in that great city. He appeared to be in a condition to support her handsomely, and she, never dreaming but that she would be kindly received by his friends, consented. It was not until some time after their marriage, that he told her he belonged to a wealthy family, and that he had married against their wishes."

"It is a sad story," Walter said, looking deeply pained, "and one that I never like to dwell upon; but to give you simple facts and not make it longer than I can help, my father had hitherto received an ample allowance from his parents, which had enabled him to live handsomely, even luxuriously; but his friends were so displeased at the step he had taken, that they not only refused to receive his wife, but they cut off his income and left him dependent upon his own exertions, also forbidding him to return to them or communicate with them."

"Where did they reside?" asked madam, curiously.

"In Baltimore. I imagine they were Southern

people, but as my mother was always made very unhappy by speaking of them, I never questioned her much about them, although I have since wished that I had done so, for it would be a satisfaction to know to whom I belonged, even though I should never intrude myself upon my purse-proud relatives." Walter remarked, with considerable spirit.

"My father, as you may suppose, was obliged to renounce his studies and go to work to support his family. He was very proud, and accepted the flat of his parents as final, and, with quiet resignation, never communicating with them afterward, never seeking to see them. The position which he succeeded in securing was a humble one, and his salary limited. When I was four years of age he met with an accident. I shall never forget that day, young as I was. He was caught in some machinery, and received an injury from which he never recovered."

"What was the nature of the injury?" asked Madame Howland, regarding Walter with sad, pitying eyes.

"It was an internal hurt; the doctors failed to ascertain just what; but he suffered intensely."

"Was he ill long?"

"More than a year."

"What supported you all during that time?"

"My mother did fancy work of various kinds; she was especially skillful in making artificial flowers, for which she received a fair price, and, while my father lived, she provided him with every comfort, although I know that she often denied herself proper food to sustain her own failing strength."

"Oh!"

Walter looked up quickly, for there were both dismay and grief expressed in the startled expression.

"How much suffering there is in this world! How much heroism in such self-denying wives!"

Your mother was a brave little woman," said Madame Howland, and Walter saw that there were tears trembling on her lashes.

"How sympathetic she is," he thought, and he felt more free to open his heart to her after that.

"When my father died," he went on, in tones that were a trifle unsteady, "my mother was heartbroken, and from that hour she began to fail also. She had a dreadful cough; but she still kept on with her work, for I had to be fed, and clothed, and sent to school. But at last her strength gave out entirely, and she had to keep her bed; then I had to stay at home to take what care I could of her, and to sell papers to help eke out the little that she was still able to earn at her fancy work, for she persisted in making her beautiful flowers even after she was too weak to sit up, and I took them out to be sold. Of course, matters grew worse and worse with us, and finally we became so destitute that I used to ask people now and then to give me a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)



This Department is conducted solely for the use of Comfort sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to Comfort subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, assistance, encouragement or sympathy.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to print letters requesting patterns, quilt pieces, etc., for the purpose of, or with the expectation of receiving the equivalent in return, for this is not an exchange column.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting donations of money. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to Comfort Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and enclose a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to Mrs. WHEELER WILKINSON, Care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

"Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born,
If He's not born in thee, thy soul is still forlorn."

I WISH to thank the sisters who have responded to my request for letters on the subject of what it means to be a Christian. I regret that lack of space prevents my printing each one so that all might realize what a band of Christian workers and believers your corner has.

The Spirit of Good Will is Christianity

The mark of a Christian man or woman is the vision of the perfect good will, and the endeavor to express it in every relationship of life, and it is only through prayer, devout reading and meditation that good will is found.

It is not when or how we pray, but in some form or other, communion with the Father's good will is absolutely essential to health of mind, warmth of heart, strength of will, and soundness of soul.

Those who try to live without gratefully recognizing the Father's good will at the heart of the world, will find their Christianity shallow and yielding, and under temptation or sudden provocation will fail.

When this reaches you the Christmas spirit will have entered many of your homes, and hands will be busy with the making of gifts prompted by loving thoughts. Let us not forget the unfortunate at this time; it takes so little to please and turn a sad day into one of gladness.

Dear sisters, to you and yours I extend the season's greetings, and may this Christmas day never be forgotten because of some blessing received.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:
In COMFORT's last issue, I see you ask those interested in your department to give their ideas as to what constitutes a Christian.

"By their fruits ye shall know them." In Corinthians we are taught that without charity (or love) though we give our bodies to be burned, it profiteth us nothing. So you see, to our fellow man is very essential to the Christian life. No true Christian can afford to harbor malice or use a deadly tongue against his neighbor. Our Sunday school superintendent once said: "Keep your tongues right, and your lives will be light."

There is a great divide and no Christian can be on one side today and on the other tomorrow. Such as love Christ are to press forward to the prize, for our Lord is a sun and shield to those who trust in Him, finally rewarding the faithful with a starry crown of life that fadeeth not away.

Real Christians do not neglect the unfortunate, or those of low estate. Christ, the righteous is no respecter of persons or degrees, and 'tis written "Blessed be the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven." Christians are peacemakers, not sitters in judgment on other men's shortcomings; remember a seam perhaps is in our own eye, while only a mote is lodged in that of our brother.

Christians going forth on errands of charity never embarrass the poor and needy by informing the world that they are doing. Satan we are told goes up and down the land seeking whom he may devour, and he is not the one he is certain of, but with Christians he tries to keep up a continual warfare that in the end he may master the soul. God gave us this world we know is not worth one soul redeemed by the blood of the lamb. My pen and brain are as too feeble to handle in the least degree a question so vitally important, and yet I'm sure it will be easy to those who daily follow in the footsteps of their Master.

Well sisters, since beginning this letter I've taken a short drive to the home of a neighbor, whose beautiful baby daughter, aged fifteen months, by some means caught in a swing and hung there until the spinal cord was so injured as to cause grave doubts as to her recovery. Her father is one of our most efficient route agents and while hastening home to his child, the horse he was driving became frightened, backing from a high bridge, demolishing the buggy and laming himself—while the life of the unfortunate man was saved by jumping.

And yet all things are not sad. Nature in her most splendid glory surrounds me. For the month of October which with us is perhaps the most beautiful of the year. A splendid belt of pines surrounds our plantation and at night looking away over the opening toward the east it is beautiful to see the moon in her grandeur mounting higher and higher the blue vault of heaven until she presents her friendly face to perfect view. I often think what must be the delight of those who have instruments through which they can behold the heavenly bodies close by. Some people seem never to look or think higher than earth, hereby losing the most magnificent scene ever presented to human eye.

On the night that Christ was born in Bethlehem, how transcendently glorious must have been the heavens to the lowly shepherds on Judea's hills as they beheld the wondrous star—also listening to the song of myriads of angels as they flitted joyously through the sky, singing only as could a heavenly choir: "Peace on earth, good will to men."

Before closing, may I ask if it is peace and love on earth, or is it otherwise?
As Christmas tide approaches may each reader of his journal share heartily in its pleasures and blessings, and when at last our journey here is ended may we all have an abundant entrance into the City Celestial—the living Olmstead, Maxton, N. C.

DEAR READERS:
I wish to thank the kind, unknown person who has sent me COMFORT; I enjoy it very much.
As I am a sunshine worker I feel very well acquainted with a good many of the people whose names

appear in Uncle Charlie's columns. Sometime I will tell you of our clubs of sunshine, and our purity and temperance work. I am a busy girl, besides my sunshine work; I write stories, poems and articles for several papers and help at home.

Our home is called "Flower Cottage," on account of the many flowers surrounding it from early in the spring, when the dear little snowdrops push forth their fragile blossoms to partake of the warm sunshine, till the gorgeous asters and chrysanthemums of autumn are destroyed by naughty Jack, we have an abundance of flowers of every description. We have collected them from many states; almost every state in the Union has given us of their plants or seeds, and all summer many have admired our beautiful treasures.

I hope all of the COMFORT readers try to have at least a few flowers; they are as necessary to a good, pure life as is nutritious food; and their influence is good. As I try naming your home readers, and see if it does not make you feel prouder of them, as well as making you wish to make them always appear at their best, and a home with a name seems to have a more "homey" atmosphere. You never hesitate to name your children, why do you your home?

How many like to read? I just love to, and have read many, many books. We have a nice library of two hundred well-selected books. Never read anything that is not worth while, it does you no good, and there are so many books that help to make you stronger, purer and nobler. "Build ye more stately temples, oh, my soul!"

I am making a Kodak album, and anyone who has a few views to spare will surely have my thanks if they can send them to me. I have named each picture and it is so delightful to imagine things about the views, as well as write stories and poems about them. I have some named, "In the Pasture," "A Quiet Rest," "Greek Costume," "Good morning," "In the Garden," "Ready for a Spin," "Company," "A Little Church," "North Carolina Woods," "Faithful Friend," and others. I derive much pleasure in dreaming over them, and in thinking of suitable titles for each picture.

I have seen few letters in your corner from dear old Illinois, but we praise-state people are very proud of her and she stands with the rest of the land. On her western shore she laps the grand old Mississippi, and her wide prairies glitter with waving corn.

My birthday is on Emerson's in the spring of the year. Once I read in your columns a letter of a lady whose birthday came on the same day. I seem to have claimed the day alone for I never saw through all my searches another name.

We are all ready preparing for the holiday season and I hope all the more fortunate ones will remember those who have no Christmas; no happy home; no loved ones; no comfort, nothing but their faith in Jesus; and, inasmuch as ye do it, the least of us, let them, ye do it unto me," remember this when Christmas bells are ringing joyfully and try to help spread cheer to some who need it most.

MISS LENA C. AHLERS, Stronghurst, Box 16, Flower Cottage, Ill.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:
When I saw your editorial asking for letters on what does it mean to be a Christian, I felt glad and thought I would write a few lines.

First, what is this life without being a Christian? There is nothing in my experience, carrying glories and goes out, but if we have felt the power of our Heavenly Father's love and goodness, it is all in this world.

We have a little church seven miles from this town where we live, and we go back there to church every Sunday for service, and keep a horse and buggy for that purpose.

I never go to this little church but I feel that sweet communion with my Saviour whom I love.

My best wishes to you all.

MRS. MARGARET T. BENNET, Heath Springs, S. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
Will you admit a sister from our little town as correspondent in your corner? My niece, with whom I live, is a subscriber to COMFORT and I sometimes read some fine letters from your sisters. I notice in the October number you invite someone to write on what I think is a very pleasant as well as important subject. "What does it mean to be a Christian?" First I would say to be a Christian is to be Christlike.

We should guard our acts and words, being very careful to obey the Golden rule: "Whatsoever we would have others do (or say) unto us, we should do (or say) unto them." To be a Christian or Christlike is to seek the happiness of others and never do or say anything to injure the character of friend or foe. It's better to steal money than to even help rob them of a good name. We should be patient with the erring ones, at the same time reprove and rebuke with all long-suffering and love. God is love and how can we be anything but loving?

Christians are responsible for (or because of) the destruction of the unsaved. How careful then ought we to live when such a strict account must be given to God. We should abide in Christ, having His words so abiding in our minds that we will live constantly ready to warn the erring ones.

I notice too, in the same number, October, that Sister Munford of Texas says in her letter some good things or words which each of us should strive to imitate. The all-wise—allpowerful and loving Saviour is willing to help us bring even our tongues in subjection to His will and to give us the meekness of Christ.

MRS. J. R. EDWARDS, Ravenden Springs, Ark.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
Will you kindly admit a Southern sister from Jacksonville. Although living in the city, my childhood home was in the country (Georgia) and oh! how I do love the country and the farm. The letters from country sisters to COMFORT are both helpful and comforting to me. Every page of COMFORT is really good and we would not be without such a dear good magazine.

Before attempting to delineate some of the qualities which I believe to constitute a Christian life will tell just a little about myself and home city. Am twenty-eight years of age, five feet one inch tall, dark brown hair and eyes, with a complexion. Have been married on the eighth of last March and have a dear good husband. We have our own little cottage and expect to build a nice home in the near future. Our lot is fifty-two by one hundred and five feet. We have chickens and lots of beautiful flowers.

Jacksonville is a city of some sixty thousand population about half being negroes. We have five, ten-story skyscrapers and several more in course of construction, miles and miles of paved streets and trolley lines, all kinds of amusement places (including the Florida ostrich farm and zoo) and churches of all denominations. There are however more Methodists and Baptists than any other; some ten or twelve of each in the city and suburbs. Although I am ashamed of them I am obliged to say we have plenty of vile old drink shops that wreck so many homes and destroy so many precious souls. We have several steamboat lines with almost daily sailing for New York, Boston, Baltimore and many other Northern and Southern points; also many kinds of factories, lumber mills, etc., in fact everything to be found in a modern and prosperous city.

A Christian I believe must possess first faith, second love, third obedience. Without the dear Lord's help we cannot be a Christian, no matter how hard we try, but if we try hard enough and seek His help He will surely help us. We must be kind one to another, to the sick, poor, afflicted, distressed and bereaved, always ready to encourage and help if possible the weak or fallen ones. Pay no attention to neighborhood gossip; if we cannot speak well of one do not speak evil. Slight no one because they are poor or not well-dressed, and be especially considerate toward the orphan. Attend church and Sunday school as regularly as possible and encourage others to do likewise; don't refuse to speak to people if they happen to slight or speak evil of us or visit the neighbors oftener than we, or if the children happen to have a little falling out as they often do. Return evil with good; don't bother folks that do not want to be bothered nor hold malice toward those who may consider themselves better than we are, socially or otherwise, for the Lord loves the poor and the humble just as well as the rich and proud. Let us remember that pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. A blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth. Last but not least, let us read God's blessed word and try to encourage others to do likewise. Oh! so many sin because ignorant of the holy law.

I hope to hear from a few of the sisters who are interested in crochet, flowers and home beautiful. With best wishes for success to COMFORT and all the readers, I remain, sincerely,
MRS. NORA M. SALFELDER, 315 Victoria St., Jacksonville, Fla.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:
As you asked us to write you our opinion on what constitutes a good Christian, I will try and tell you mine.

A good Christian is one who can "take up the cross and follow me," as Jesus said. One who is charitable

and will relieve distress if possible; even if it does mean to inconvenience one's self or sacrifice some personal pleasure. One who is kind to the poor as well as the rich and will do as much for a needy person as if they were wealthy. It also means one who is not afraid to stand up for what is right, no matter what sentiment is on the other side. It means to be able to go to an erring sister, and if need be, put one's arms around her and say, "Come unto me you who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest." Or, "Ye who have not sin cast the first stone," and one, who be not ashamed of her as a soul, only ashamed of the sin. And too, one, who if an unjust neighbor says mean or despicable things of us, must forbear all unkind remarks of them and try in our innermost heart to say with Him "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they do."

And while we may not have perfect heads, we can have pure hearts. By that I mean that we may not always be able to do just the correct thing at the correct time, but if we do anything wrong we can be sorry for it, and repent, and try over again. Surely He who told us, "Ye seven times seventy times shall thou forgive, if thy brother asketh," can forgive us as often if necessary. Still, we must fight the good fight of faith, and hold fast to His mighty hand, never letting go, and if we do let it slip for an instant, why, we must get a tighter hold the next time. We must have faith that Jesus saves us from sin. And it is not such a very hard task, this having faith, for it only means we must believe that He can save. To be a good Christian we must not be ashamed to "acknowledge Him before all men." We must be prepared to speak right up for Him at any time that occasion demands it. A true Christian is thankful always for the good things and the bad, the good because God has been kind and blessed us for the bad because He has given us strength to bear it all for His sake.

To be a Christian means to shun all evil, no matter of what kind, if it be in our own families or that of a friend or relative we must not sanction it to ourselves or to the ones that do evil. Such as drinking, swearing, gambling or other things that bring sinful results. For "out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh," and no matter what our thoughts are, if vile and ungodly, we tell it out in our everyday talk. If we live a Christian life our actions will tell it. It is not what the neighbors say of us, but what we know ourselves to be and what God knows us to be, is what counts in the measure for, or against us. For as we "measure it will be measured out to us again." We must read the word. This is my idea of a good, true Christian, one whom our children may follow, if thought and deed.

I think with hundreds of others, that COMFORT is a grand, good paper and wish it and its editors and other workers, a long happy life, one filled to the brim with all that goes to make a successful life, both here and hereafter. Yours in His name,
BECCA RENSLOW, Yale, R. R. 2, Box 30, Iowa.

MY DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:
I am glad you brought this great, important subject about, and I am glad of the opportunity to give what light I have on pure, undefiled religion.

My Bible tells me it is to visit the widowed and fatherless in their afflictions and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. It means much to be a true Christian; to be crucified with Christ and have our lives hid with Him in God; to watch our thoughts and words continually that no evil comes in to take, root and bear fruit.

Some people claim it is impossible to live a spotless life here in this world. But we would not be told to do a thing that we could not do. The angels announced to the shepherds when Christ was born, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

"We know that we have no peace so long as our conscience condemns us; so long as we do wrong. God sent His son to save us from our sins; sometimes called in the holy word 'enemies.' The scriptures read 'from our sins,' not in our sins." I am not saying this to call down criticism, nor on purpose to convert someone to my way of believing what it means to be a Christian.

But I must give a reason for the hope that is in me. Be a witness for Jesus. Someone will say no doubt that they have tried to live the sinless or unspotted life, which resulted in a miserable failure. And dear ones, right there is why you made a failure. You must cease trying to keep in God's order and let God keep you. Does He not say He will keep thee, and serve kept by His power through faith unto salvation. You don't have to try, just let Him keep you every moment.

Dear Christian friends, I have been sick a long time, please pray that God will raise me to His honor and glory. The prayer of faith shall save the sick. A merry Christmas to Uncle Charlie, Mr. Gannett and all of COMFORT's readers. May God keep you all in His loving embrace.

Clean Food

It is an incentive to hunger to see Uneeda Biscuit made.

All materials are of the finest quality—clean, nutritious. The dough is mixed in spotless trays in a spotless bakery. Rolled thin; baked in wonderful ovens scientifically heated to give just the right crispness; then packed into the moisture-proof packages that keep them fresh, crisp and clean till eaten.

5c

Never sold in bulk

In the moisture-proof package

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

and will relieve distress if possible; even if it does mean to inconvenience one's self or sacrifice some personal pleasure. One who is kind to the poor as well as the rich and will do as much for a needy person as if they were wealthy. It also means one who is not afraid to stand up for what is right, no matter what sentiment is on the other side. It means to be able to go to an erring sister, and if need be, put one's arms around her and say, "Come unto me you who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest." Or, "Ye who have not sin cast the first stone," and one, who be not ashamed of her as a soul, only ashamed of the sin. And too, one, who if an unjust neighbor says mean or despicable things of us, must forbear all unkind remarks of them and try in our innermost heart to say with Him "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they do."

And while we may not have perfect heads, we can have pure hearts. By that I mean that we may not always be able to do just the correct thing at the correct time, but if we do anything wrong we can be sorry for it, and repent, and try over again. Surely He who told us, "Ye seven times seventy times shall thou forgive, if thy brother asketh," can forgive us as often if necessary. Still, we must fight the good fight of faith, and hold fast to His mighty hand, never letting go, and if we do let it slip for an instant, why, we must get a tighter hold the next time.

We must have faith that Jesus saves us from sin. And it is not such a very hard task, this having faith, for it only means we must believe that He can save. To be a good Christian we must not be ashamed to "acknowledge Him before all men." We must be prepared to speak right up for Him at any time that occasion demands it. A true Christian is thankful always for the good things and the bad, the good because God has been kind and blessed us for the bad because He has given us strength to bear it all for His sake.

To be a Christian means to shun all evil, no matter of what kind, if it be in our own families or that of a friend or relative we must not sanction it to ourselves or to the ones that do evil. Such as drinking, swearing, gambling or other things that bring sinful results. For "out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh," and no matter what our thoughts are, if vile and ungodly, we tell it out in our everyday talk. If we live a Christian life our actions will tell it. It is not what the neighbors say of us, but what we know ourselves to be and what God knows us to be, is what counts in the measure for, or against us. For as we "measure it will be measured out to us again." We must read the word. This is my idea of a good, true Christian, one whom our children may follow, if thought and deed.

I think with hundreds of others, that COMFORT is a grand, good paper and wish it and its editors and other workers, a long happy life, one filled to the brim with all that goes to make a successful life, both here and hereafter. Yours in His name,
BECCA RENSLOW, Yale, R. R. 2, Box 30, Iowa.

MY DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:
I am glad you brought this great, important subject about, and I am glad of the opportunity to give what light I have on pure, undefiled religion.

My Bible tells me it is to visit the widowed and fatherless in their afflictions and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. It means much to be a true Christian; to be crucified with Christ and have our lives hid with Him in God; to watch our thoughts and words continually that no evil comes in to take, root and bear fruit.

Some people claim it is impossible to live a spotless life here in this world. But we would not be told to do a thing that we could not do. The angels announced to the shepherds when Christ was born, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

"We know that we have no peace so long as our conscience condemns us; so long as we do wrong. God sent His son to save us from our sins; sometimes called in the holy word 'enemies.' The scriptures read 'from our sins,' not in our sins." I am not saying this to call down criticism, nor on purpose to convert someone to my way of believing what it means to be a Christian.

But I must give a reason for the hope that is in me. Be a witness for Jesus. Someone will say no doubt that they have tried to live the sinless or unspotted life, which resulted in a miserable failure. And dear ones, right there is why you made a failure. You must cease trying to keep in God's order and let God keep you. Does He not say He will keep thee, and serve kept by His power through faith unto salvation. You don't have to try, just let Him keep you every moment.

Dear Christian friends, I have been sick a long time, please pray that God will raise me to His honor and glory. The prayer of faith shall save the sick. A merry Christmas to Uncle Charlie, Mr. Gannett and all of COMFORT's readers. May God keep you all in His loving embrace.

Your COMFORT sister,
ANNIE BAILEY, Moulton, Al.

DEAR FRIENDS:
I beg permission to write a few words about our mothers of America.

When Eve was brought unto Adam, he became filled with the Holy spirit, and gave her the most sanctified, the most glorious of appellations, he called her Eve, that is, mother; he did not style her wife, but simply mother. In this consists the glory and most precious ornament of woman.

When James A. Garfield was a child, his mother's love led him in the way of truth. When he was inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1881, after he had taken the oath of office in the presence of many thousand people, he kissed the Holy Bible, and then turned and kissed his aged mother. No artist can do justice to that event. He knew how proud his mother was to see him installed in the highest office in the gift of the American people, and in the hour of exaltation his heart turned to her.

Months rolled by and he was assassinated, and during all the long, weary weeks of suffering that followed, he wrote but one letter, and that was to his mother. He knew she was weeping for him, and that her thoughts were all of her "dear afflicted son." He knew well the depths of his mother's love, that she longed and prayed for his recovery every day, and in answer to this love he wrote only to her during those dreadful weeks. He was surrounded by people, attended by the leading physicians of the country, and anxiously inquired after and sympathized with by all civilized nations on earth. He was watched over and cared for by many good friends and by a devoted and faithful wife; yet in the midst of all this, his thoughts turned to his old home.

"Mother, dear mother! My heart calls for you. I must write to my mother," and calling for pen and ink, he wrote the only letter penned by him after the assassin struck him down.

When Garfield's mother heard of his assassination, she said: "Oh! why did they shoot my baby?" He was her youngest child, and her thoughts went back through the years of toil and care, and he was again at her knee. "My baby" was the dearest name, and the depths of a mother's love, surpassed alone by the love of God for the world, was awakened in her heart, and found expression in words that were dear to her when the President of the United States was a child in her arms.

One lamp, a mother's love, amid the stars shall lift its pure flame changeless, and before the throne of God burn through eternity.

A mother's love can never die. If disgrace settles upon her children's name, she will still love and cherish them in spite of their disgrace; and if all the world beside cast them off, she will be all the world to them. Yet, she would rather die than see her child ruined and disgraced, and could mother-love save from ways of sin, there would be but few travelers on the road that leads to death. None can tell how often the commission of crime is prevented by memories of home and mother.

Many a time a cheerful home and smiling face does more to make good men and women than all the learning and eloquence that can be used.

It is said that the sweetest words in our language are "Mother, home and Heaven," and one might almost say the word "home" included them all; for who can think of home without remembering the gentle mother who sanctified it by her presence? And is not home the dearest name for heaven? Dear COMFORT! We think of that better land as a home where brightness will never end in night. Oh, then, may our homes on earth be the centers of all our joys; may they be as green spots in the desert, to which we can retire when weary of the cares and perplexities of life, and drink the clear waters of a love which we know to be sincere and always unfailing—mother's love. Even He, who died for us upon the cross, in the last hour, in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of His mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last worldly thoughts, the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight for heaven. A mother's love is indeed the golden link that binds youth to age; and he is still but a child, however time may have furrowed his cheek, or silvered his brow, who can yet recall, with a softened heart, the fond devotion, or the gentle chiding, of the best friend that God ever gives us.

But, alas, how little do we appreciate a mother's tenderness while living! How heedless are we in youth of all her anxieties and kindness! But when she is dead and gone when the cares and coldness of the world come withering to our hearts; when we experience how hard it is to find true sympathy, how few love us for ourselves; how few will befriend us in our misfortunes. Then we think of the mother that loved us, and to her our hearts turn yearningly.

Look we at our cherished and household; our families are growing less. "Friend after friend depart, who has not lost a friend."

Dear shut-ins, labor patiently and wait calmly, for thy Redeemer draweth nigh! Weary ones, drink the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

My Holly Girl. A Christmas Story

Copyright, 1911, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

By Joseph F. Novak

I FELT decidedly hurt and insulted when cousin Dora refused me. Cousin Dora? Well, she is a cousin, four or five times removed, so I was legally entitled to propose.

It came about like this: I had called on the dear girl a night or two before Christmas eve and found her busy doing up Christmas packages in tissue and ribbon. I asked her if she took all the trouble with tissue and ribbon because she knew she was handing gold bricks to her friends.

"Whereupon she snapped: 'If you give me as nice a Christmas present as any of these packages contain, I shall consider myself lucky.'"

That gave me the opportunity I sought, so without a moment's delay, I promptly produced a little box, saying:

"All right, you are lucky. Look!" And I snapped up the cover of the box, revealing a most beautiful solitaire. "I was going to wait until Christmas eve, but I've changed my mind because of your challenge. Now what do you think?" I finished triumphantly.

"O, my dear boy, it is a darling," she answered, as she put it on her right hand.

I became alarmed. "Why, Dora, it doesn't belong on that hand. Put it on the other one."

"But I'm not engaged to you," she demurred. "I know. But the ring does that, doesn't it?"

Dora gave me a look of amazement and fright, followed by ones of provocation, anger and scandalization, in rapid succession. I wonder if all girls look that way when they receive a proposal they don't expect and mean to turn down.

At any rate, she said finally: "I don't want your ring. Take it away."

"O, Dora," I blubbered like a booby, "don't you love me?"

"Wilbur, have you any sense at all? If you have, use it," Dora's voice was stern.

"You don't love me," she continued, "and I don't love you, except as we should love each other—as cousins. Why, Willy, you couldn't even change my name!"

The thought struck her as being the funniest ever, for suddenly she commenced to laugh, and giggle and snicker, till the tears ran down her cheeks. There's nothing like "rubbing it in," and Dora took this mean advantage of me, for she continued:

"I should feel as if I hadn't been married, for after the ceremony, I should be Dora Westlock, just as I am Dora Westlock now."

That was so. Somehow or other, we bore the same family name of Westlock, and as I couldn't deny that, I sat looking at the girl with a most woe-begone "mug." (Pardon the indecent expression, but that was what Dora's brother termed my glum face. He was in the next room trimming a Christmas tree, and from his perch on the ladder, through the transom, he saw all that transpired. I get hot when I think of it.)

Dora is really a very good little creature, so seeing that I really felt keenly her refusal, she commenced the I'll-be-a-sister-to-you gag. When she commenced that, I felt she was giving in, so I began to plead more piteously and with more mushy sentiment than I hitherto believed myself capable of. Jove! What rot I indulged!

But it only had the effect of angering Dora. "She wouldn't have me, so there!" and that was all there was to it!

"I shall go and drown myself," I declared in a passion, as I tossed a bunch of mistletoe to the floor.

"I wish you had drowned yourself before you spoiled all the berries on this spray," she retorted, as she picked up the poor, innocent-suffer-for-the-guilty thing. "Go ahead and do it, if you wish. However, the lake's water is very cold, and think of how your manly beauty would be ruined before you were found. Stage heroes, when they are supposed to be fished out of the lake make themselves very beautiful before 'going on' and you couldn't do that. I'd advise you to try poison, perhaps it will not disfigure you."

When Dora said that, I thought her the most disagreeable person I had ever met. So hot-headed I declared:

"I'm glad now that you refused me. And I shall not break my heart over you, though it seems past mending. Remember, I sha. not." "O, you'll think of me occasionally, won't you?" she asked with trembling lip. (She trembles her lip purposely, I often wonder how she does it.) "I'm sorry I hurt you."

"And spoiled my Christmas," I said with despot grandeur.

"And spoiled your Christmas," she repeated, "but if you want to forget, why don't you do stum work? It will ease your Christmas eve which then you will not have to spend with the family. That would be a dreadful trial with me present. Of course, I could stay away, but you are a man, and men bear those things more staunchly than a woman."

Didn't she turn me out of the family Christmas festivities with a vengeance though?

I had used bull-dozing tactics and gotten my well-deserved reward. On the spot I decided that it was stum work for me, Christmas eve at least. The idea wasn't very appealing, however.

But I had chosen to feel romantically miserable and blue, so keeping up the play, I took my leave, after giving Dora a kind of Olga Nether-sole kiss (the wet, long kind, you know), which, perforce, she had been obliged to take because of my exercise of sheer brute strength. However, she felt repaid, for I prevailed upon her to keep the ring, and wear it—on the right hand which was not the left.

On Christmas eve, I was still feeling romantically lovesick and blue, so I concluded to follow Dora's advice, as per resolution made. I called at the "Good Fellows Club," an association formed for the purpose of bringing Christmas cheer to the foreigners and deserving poor of our city. I handed the fellow in charge a ten dollar bill, my contribution toward the general good will, and told him I wanted to do some charity work. He was delighted, I was enrolled as a "Good Fellow," and given a basket of Christmas truck, and an address where to take it. It was in a morbidly dark district, where tenements and lumber piles alternated in making up the streets.

I felt like an idiot as I left for the place, and had a jimjammy feeling lest the bottle of pickles which the basket contained should break and decorate my stunning overcoat with the juice! It rattled in a way that made me nervous.

It was quite a distance to the mean district to which I was assigned, and I thought I'd take a street-car, but that terrible basket, so conspicuously new, made a coward of me. So I decided to walk.

I suppose I ought to have been filled with Christmas cheer and enjoyed walking through the slush, and poking about in the tenements. But I wasn't. My shoes were not bought for heavy trudging, they were patent leather, and my feet soon began to feel miserably cold and wet.

I wouldn't give up, however, and finally I arrived at the street I sought. It was dark as a jungle, and about as wild, for the snow, which tore around in wet disabandon melted immediately it fell, and did not light up the gloom.

I almost quailed, and for a moment, stood undecided. But a doctor should never fear, so I started down the awful street.

I don't know what I did to the fellow in charge of the Good Fellow Club that made him assign this place to me. I believe I must have kicked him at school. True, I don't remember ever having seen him before, but he might have remembered me.

I was just trying to decide whether I should relieve my feelings with a healthy string of cuss

words, when suddenly I noticed a little apparition, all clothed in white—white suit, muff, furs, hat and plumes—standing near a bleary street light.

As I came directly opposite her, I also observed that upon her bosom, she wore a bunch of holly, the little red berries of which glowed in the uncertain light.

She was standing before the very house to which I had been assigned, so I crossed over and stopped. I wondered what she was doing there—then suddenly I knew.

At her feet lay a basket, a counterpart of mine.

I felt silly. I saw her eye dance from her basket to mine. I suppose she saw the same doing of my eye. Then we laughed, she sweetly, with a trembly little note, I with my usual hearty (Dora calls it vulgar) howl, which always escapes me when anything tickles my risibilities.

Our baskets did the introducing.

"How do you do, Miss Good Fellow?" I enquired, for I didn't suppose we'd ever meet again, and thinking myself a disappointed lover, I determined to flirt even as Armand Duval did, thinking to boast of the matter before my Camille when I had the chance.

I noticed a tendency on the part of my holly girl to squelch me, but seeing I didn't look dangerous, she possibly thought I was better than a bowery tramp, so she answered:

"Good evening, Mr. Good Fellow." When she spoke, I thought her the dearest girl in the world.

"Are you lost?" I asked.

"No-o-o," she said doubtfully. "I'm afraid."

"What are you afraid of?"

I presume she thought me the king-pin of Idiots. What dainty maiden would not be afraid in that locality.

"I wanted to practice charity," she began, "so I went to see the Good Fellows. They gave me this address and I'm to go in there. But I'm afraid."

"Silly Jacks!" I exploded. "Don't they know better than to give a young woman of your birth and culture an address in this neighborhood? I've no doubt it is infested with tramps."

excellently well, so well that it won my admiration and made me give him a quarter.

Then I explained my mission, handed the basket over and escaped from their violent thanks.

Miss Good Fellow looked at me in amazement. "What was that name?" she queried in awe.

"Why, something like Wry-czszcz!-sneeze-ski," I answered.

I heard her thoughtfully trying to repeat the name. Truly, the name was Wryczszski! There, pronounce it!

We continued our upward journey to my soft humming of, "My Lady Climbs up her Tower," and I gently swung the hand of my holly girl to the rhythm. I heard her humming too. And don't you know, I felt glad that I was a pretty decent sort of a fellow after all, for I am not a sport in an immoral sense.

When we reached the top floor, we saw a dim light from a window, the curtain of which missed the sill by a couple of inches, and gave us an insight to the little room.

We both stooped and peeped in.

The room was poor, but neat. In one corner, a young chap of possibly eighteen, was busy with his ablutions. In another part, a girl, a few years younger, was preparing a humble little spread.

"O, Jim," she said, "our lunch'll look pretty skimpy, don't you think?"

"Yes, I reckon it will," he answered, "but anyhow it is all we kin afford. Maybe some of the other boys'll bring something to our Christmas party."

I looked at Miss Good Fellow. My eyes glowed in the light from hers.

"Shall we go in?" I whispered.

She nodded, we rose, and knocked. The door was opened to us, hilariously, by the young man. He looked suspiciously, however, when he saw he did not know us.

"Good evening and Merry Christmas," I began. "We thought we'd bring you a little Christmas cheer, young people. Now don't," I appealed, as I saw him about to refuse. "Won't you take it as a gift from brother to brother, and let us stay to your Christmas party tonight?"

"Sure, all right," he returned heartily, and we

entered. "We're gonna have a party tonight, and—"

He stopped suddenly, for something hanging from the ceiling, on a long string, brushed his forehead. It was a bit of evergreen with tiny balls of white cotton sewed upon it.

"What the 'ell ye call this?" the lad enquired, innocently of his sister as he surveyed it. We listened for the explanation.

"Aw, Jimmy. I'm s'prised at yer ignorance. That's mistletoe. Ye know we read that story in the book ye brought home: It was called, 'Flaming Arrows of Hate,' an' there was a part where they had a Christmas party an' ever' time a girl got under th' mistletoe, th' boys kissed her."

Well, we'll play that game tonight. Only mistletoe was so 'spensive, so I made this. It'll do jes' as well."

"That'll be fine. Don't ye think so, sister?" Jimmie Sprague appealed to me.

"You bet," I answered heartily.

Well, I never did so enjoy a social affair as I did that one. And the way Miss Good Fellow made herself agreeable to all the poor little maids who came to that Christmas party was wonderful. And seeing that she was so agreeable, I tried my hand with the boys, and—think me concealed if you will—I think I was their hero.

We joined them in their lunch, eating little but pretending to eat a lot, and our basket did come in mighty handy.

Then after supper, everything was cleared away, and little Maggie Sprague told the story of the mistletoe. Well, we all listened attentively. Then one of the chaps who had brought an accordion, played upon it, and to the strains of the Virgin Reel, we commenced to dance. We danced the reel under the mistletoe, and many were the kisses stolen.

My holly girl avoided getting under it, but once she didn't and then—well, then I kissed her.

Everyone applauded, for they had seen I had taken advantage of my first chance, and to them it seemed quite proper.

But decidedly it was not, and my holly girl let me know it. Her eyes flashed. I never saw girl's eyes blaze as hers did. Eros! How angry she was!

"O, I must go home! Why, what was I thinking of?"

The reel came to an abrupt finish. I left my place, picked up our wraps, silently helped the girl with hers, and we left, after giving forcedly cheerful good bys.

We made our way down the staircase. But I

did not hold my little friend's hand as I did going up.

We reached the street. The wind had changed and was now coming from the northeast, piercing us to the bone.

I shuddered with the cold in spite of my heavy overcoat. We walked along silently.

"We had a pleasant evening," I began with attempted cheerfulness. Then again: "I'm going to get a job for that young fellow. He's too bright not to be given a helping hand."

My holly girl vouched no reply.

Once more I tried. "Where do you live?"

"That is a matter of no consequence," she answered, in a voice that took away the cut of her words. "I can find my way home. Thank you for rendering the help you did. Good night."

We had reached the corner.

"Why, Miss—Miss—" I slurred over not knowing her name. "Really I must insist that I escort you home. Why, the night is twelve and terrific."

"As you will."

How I wished she would speak words that would revile me for what I had done, for the unfair advantage I had taken of her. It was contemptible, monstrous.

But why did I hate myself so for my contumacy? I knew I would never meet her again. But, ah, it was because she had caused such feelings to riot within me as never before had any woman. And I had taken unfair advantage of her the whole while, and she had submitted because there was no help for it. And then, most despicable of all, I had kissed her, kissed her as if she had been a Sabie woman.

I despised myself, loathed my conduct.

"O, tell me," I cried, "tell me, is there any way in which I can make reparation for what I have done? It was unwarrantable, presumptuous, despicable, and yet, ah, my lady of the holly, I do not regret it, for once I have experienced the sweets of love, O, pardon me for thus ranting, you make me!"

"I thought I had a protector in you," she said in a low voice.

"O, I hear insult upon you now, by speaking of love. But I'll clamp my lips now and henceforth, I'll see you home, then I'll never see you again—you would not allow it—but believe me, I shall never forget you and the thought that I once kissed a fair and innocent young woman shall keep me straight when temptations beckon and passion clamors."

I hardly knew what I said. But I was sincere. Heaven knows I was. And then after my last speech, I closed my lips, and spoke only when it was necessary to ask direction.

The snow was falling very heavily now, in thick flakes which deepened continually on the sidewalks. It was very late, no stores or shops were open from which I might telephone to a garage for a taxi.

Silently we walked along. The girl often trembled with the cold. I drew off my big coat and put it about her shoulders. She was almost lost in it.

But I know she appreciated the little courtesy for she drew it about her closely. In all our walking never once did we spy a street-car.

At length we emerged in a respectable portion of the city. Suddenly the girl stopped and slipped the coat from her shoulders.

"I thank you for your kindness. You wished to know if you could make reparation. You can. Do not ever try and seek me out."

"If it is your wish, then it will be my duty," I answered. "But I pray you, don't think vilely of me, and forgive me, for I would do anything to hold your respect. And now good by, my sweet, sweet holly girl."

We exchanged good bys.

A wet snowflake temporarily blinded me. When I had brushed it from my eye, I looked about. The girl was gone; I knew not where.

I walked home as one in a daze. The thought of having fallen in love with a girl at sight seemed the height of folly to me, and yet I was glad.

When I reached home, I threw off my coat. Imagine my surprise when a small chatelaine tumbled from an inside pocket. How had it gotten there? Then I remembered seeing the girl thrust it under my coat with the intention of putting it in the small pocket of her suit, and had thus accidentally slipped it into my pocket.

I caught it up and opened it. It contained a mite of a handkerchief, a ten dollar gold piece and a few loose coins. But best of all was a card, Miss Lorraine Airfield, with address and telephone number upon it. I snatched up the receiver; then I slowly hung it back on its hook. She had asked me not to seek her out. That was her wish, and I would respect it. I thought of the kiss, a thrill violently pervaded me, and I consecrated my love to the memory of that most sacred lovers' liberty.

All Christmas day I was distraught. Dora said I was. She really believed I was taking her refusal so hardly. It worried her, and though I was sorry to make her feel badly, nevertheless, I could not tell her why it was that I wore my heart upon my sleeve. Banished were all thoughts of haunting my lost conquest.

I did not make any attempt to see my holly girl, though I knew where she lived, and I lived in the memory of that cherished kiss.

And then, a year later, at a Christmas eve hop—I met her.

I was delighted. But would she remember me? I was hot and cold by turns until we were introduced. Ah, sadness, she did not remember!

Then suddenly my spirits, which had descended with a thud, flew to the heights again, when she quietly, but with good humor in her eyes, murmured: "I really am delighted, Mr. Good Fellow."

"Ah, you do remember me? Then let me give you this."

I held out the purse. I dimly wondered why I proffered the gew-gaw in such an abrupt manner, and whether she wouldn't wonder at my carrying the thing about. But nevertheless, my proffer was well, for it threw us into the midst of memories.

"Why how did you get it?" Miss Lorraine Airfield began. "I thought I had lost it."

"You slipped it accidentally into my coat pocket and I kept it until I should meet you."

"But here is my card," she answered, taking it from the purse.

"You asked me not to seek you out," I reminded.

"Ah, so I did. And if I had not recognized you now, would you have given it to me?" she questioned.

"I think not."

"You are consistent!"

"Thanks," I returned. "But I did not enjoy being consistent and doing penance."

"Doing penance?" she asked quickly. "For what?"

"Do you remember what I said? And do you remember—the kiss?"

The pink blush told me that she did. My heart leaped.

Then she said slowly:

"I remember everything, distinctly. I had formed two opinions of you. You were either most consistent, or else a dashing and fascinating bounder. For I reasoned that, had you meant what you said that Christmas eve, you could not so have controlled your heart, as to remain away. Most lovers would not. And when you made no attempt to see me, I hoped it was consistency and respect to my wish. And so hoping, my admiration grew for one so faithful to his word."

Miss Airfield's cheeks were now as glowing as the berries of the holly which formed the chief feature of the decoration scheme for that Christmas eve hop.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)



MY HOLLY GIRL AVOIDED GETTING UNDER IT, BUT ONCE SHE DIDN'T AND THEN, WELL—THEN I KISSED HER.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

cup which a Father's hand gives, for the night of sorrow is fast passing away; for behind the dawn of an eternal day of glory is now breaking.

"A home in heaven."

What a joyful thought!

Dear Comfort sisters I would be pleased to hear from you all. I am seventeen years old.

With best wishes for Comfort readers and love to all, I remain, a new sister of COMFORT.

MABEL SMITH, Wickes, Box 36, Ark.

Miss Smith. You could have chosen no lovelier a subject than *mother-love* for your letter, and I want to compliment you on your composition. For a seventeen-year-old girl you show ability out of the ordinary. Give all the hours possible to study, and do not hesitate in making sacrifices to this end.

You could not have chosen a finer type of womanhood than the mother of James A. Garfield, the youngest of four children, left by his father's death to be reared by his mother from the age of infancy. Fancy the hardships of this mother in the small log cabin home in the Ohio wilderness, a region which I believe is now known as the Western Reserve.

And again, how great was her reward when her boy became the twentieth President of the United States!

Another rare type of womanhood was the mother of Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President of the United States.

The father was said to be shiftless. Although the mother could read but not write she was a woman of piety and excellent judgment. She died when her boy Abraham was nine years old, and her wonderful character cannot be better described than in what he said of her in later years: "All that I am, and all that I hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."—Ed.

DEAR SISTERS:

I have read your letters with great interest and while I am alone this afternoon I feel that nothing can be more pleasing than to pen a few words to our COMFORT sisters.

I'll not take time to describe myself as it would give you a clear picture of a little so-called "school girl." I would be pleased to hear from my old friends and schoolmates who spy my name in these columns. I am one of the many who has had the fever to see the far West. Have been out to the coast and feel well satisfied—now since I am safely back in the good old Eastern states. Of course my trip would have been more interesting if I could have had someone with me for I made the journey alone, but as it was, I enjoyed it very much and learned many things that, to me seemed impossible to be true.

It must be grand to live in among those beautiful mountains and see the pure white clouds floating so smoothly by! But of all the lonely places I do believe that Montana and the Dakotas are the limit. How can a girl stay on a claim in so lonely a country? It seems queer to me how a girl can lead such a wild, lonely life, but I suppose it seems queer to some girls how I took the journey to Washington and Oregon alone, being scarcely eighteen years of age. I went there intending to work during the fruit season, but the crops being poor I got a position as clerk in a store in the city of Walla Walla, Wash. My work was tiring on the nerves, but I had nice times all summer, although I grew very lonesome and returned to the East again, feeling well satisfied with my trip.

With best wishes to dear old COMFORT and its readers, I am,

ELLA MAY PEASLEE, Carlos, Minn.

DEAR SISTERS:

May I come in for a short chat? I have been taking COMFORT for a long time and don't see how I could keep house without it. It is a dear good paper. Sometimes I start to do something around the house and don't know just how to do it, so I think, "I'll go and get COMFORT and find out how it is done." I have a most always find how it is done right. I have a friend to read to me when I am alone. I never tear up a good paper. I always let someone read it after I finish it. I can remember when I was not able to buy papers, and how glad I was when someone gave me a good paper to read.

I see in our last paper where our editor wants us to write on "What it means to be a Christian." I wish I was able to explain what it means but I am not, but I know it means something. So many of us think we are Christians when we are not. I once knew a lady that belonged to the church for fourteen years and when she was taken sick to die, she did not even know how to pray. She had done nothing for the Lord all that time, but she became a Christian about four days before she died and she talked to everybody that came in about their soul, and she died more good in that four days' time than in all the fourteen years she had claimed to be a Christian.

Dear sisters, let us study ourselves and see if we are like this poor woman and if we are not what we ought to be, let us try by God's help to do better. We can do nothing without His help.

How many sisters believe in praying for others? I do for one, for I know what prayer will do.

I have a brother whom I have prayed for ever since I was a child and I am now twenty-five, and now God has answered my prayer, for I received a letter from him the other day telling me he had accepted Christ as his Saviour. I cannot tell you how happy I was. I just went into my closet and thanked God so many times; I cried for joy. Don't stop praying for your loved ones. Let us give our lives to Christ while we are young, and not wait until we have nothing but our worn-out bodies to give Him.

For consumption, drink mullein tea, made from the mullein that grows wild. Use three times a day. This helped my brother wonderfully.

Mrs. MARY DUBBIN, Covington, R. R. 2, Tenn.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Will you let a sister from old Edgeland enter your happy circle for a little while?

I do enjoy reading the sister's letters; they are so interesting and helpful and Uncle Charlie's criticisms are so comical. They are sure to banish the blues. I deeply sympathize with the poor shut-ins; their lives are indeed lonely, even if they are fortunate enough to be well cared for.

This is a very good farming country; cotton, corn, potatoes and all kinds of grain are principally grown. We live at present on a little farm, but my husband works in his store most all the time as his health is not very good.

What has become of our little Indian girl? I would like to hear from her, she writes such sweet, interesting letters.

I would also like to hear from any of the sisters, as I love you one and all, also dear Mrs. Wilkinson.

I am sincerely your sister,

MRS. L. M. DOAN, Clarks Hill, S. C.

DEAR EDITOR AND SISTERS:

I have come for a few minutes' call.

Out here in Western Washington we have dry summers, and some people irrigate their gardens. We raise most everything except watermelons.

Mrs. Stillwell, Greeley, Colo. I remember your father was a first-class doctor, but try this way next time you care for pneumonia. Take a piece of woolen blanket or anything else wool that will go twice around the body, heat it hot in a double bread pan (one over the other) in the oven. Sew it on the patient, over the undershirt (thus keeping the arms and neck covered) close to the armpits. Keep this on for one week, giving only cold water to drink, and milk mixed hot and half with clear, cold water. The sick one will sweat but do not change either the pad or shirt. Dry bed covers, warmed, should be used twice a day, carefully. My husband has had two attacks of pneumonia in late years, and this is what cured him. Gave him all the fresh air possible, and the above care.

After one week, change; at the same time rubbing with a soft towel, quickly to one thickness of flannel or blanket sewed on, over the clean hot shirt, keep it on a week, giving a one quarter water and three quarter glass of milk five times a day. After that, give more food, a very little at a time, five times a day.

Try putting vaseline or any other grease on the inside of the nose for a cold.

Try drinking a pint of cold water, first thing in the morning for sick stomach.

Try resting a few minutes, say twenty, each morning about half past nine o'clock.

Try washing your separator with hot, clear water every morning.

I have enjoyed reading your paper for twelve years and hope to for years to come, even if I am sixty-five years old, and have eight grandchildren. One of my grand-daughters went to her home above this last summer, but I expect to see her again.

Speaking of girls and boys learning to cook, it is a blessed thing to know. Once when my first baby was less than a year old I was sick for three days, and as our nearest neighbor was two miles away my husband had to do his work and mine and care for baby, too.

I am writing a long letter but it may help cheer someone.

With best wishes and may God bless you all, I am your loving sister.

ANGIE S. BOGESS, Quilcene, Jefferson Co., Wash.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Please sit over and let an old Missourian have a little room. I won't need much for I just weigh one hundred and six pounds; am twenty-six years old. As for looks I had rather talk about something else. Missouri is a fine old place, or at least we think so, and we have always made a living farming. We can grow most any kind of crops here. I have never been out of Missouri so don't know how it is compared with other places, but nearly all who leave come back, so think it must be as good.

I love to read the Sisters' Corner, one gets so many useful things out of it. As for training children there are no two ever trained alike. We have one little girl one-year old, we call her Lucille.

If baby gets burned, just try mixing pure lard and camphor together and apply.

For croup give alum; what you can pick up with your thumb and forefinger in a teaspoon of honey. If you haven't honey, molasses will do.

For sprains or swelling take strong vinegar and salt; the more salt the better, and use as hot as you can stand.

For tired eyes, bathe in salt water, one teaspoon to a quart of water.

If baby has colic give water to drink and place hot water bottle on stomach. If without the bottle warm a plate or saucer and lay over the pit of the stomach.

I would like to receive letters from the sisters.

MRS. IRENE CARTER, Bois Darc, R. R. 1, Box 39, Mo.

Mrs. Carter. In the absence of a hot water bottle, a bag of salt heated in the oven is an excellent substitute, and many claim that the hot salt has the virtue of strengthening and taking out soreness. Make the bag about ten by ten inches square, and put in salt enough to make about an inch larger when flat.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I was reading my October paper when I said to myself, "This is my time to write a few lines." I have taken dear old COMFORT for a long time and the more I read it the more I like it. I have received lots of help from its pages.

Mrs. Mollie Munford. Your letter was fine. You are right, guard your tongue. Same thing happened in our neighborhood last summer. A woman said things that should not have been said. Oh, how it does hurt, for it was about me at the time of my husband's death; things I would never have thought of saying for the world.

I am very lonely here, way out in the wood on a homestead. We came here eight years ago this last July. My husband died suddenly of blood poisoning. Would any sister who knows, tell what to do for blood poisoning before you can get a doctor.

Have two little children, nine and twelve years of age. They will soon have to go to school and then I will be all alone as my oldest son, twenty-four years old, is away working in B. C.

I have been married twenty-five years last April; was only fifteen at the time, so I will say to the young girls don't marry at fifteen, there is lots of time even at twenty years.

I should enjoy a Christmas shower from the sisters; also would like to hear about their homes. My health is very poor at present, and so Christmas will be the loneliest without husband who was always with me there.

Your sister, Mrs. SUSAN SINCLAIR, Boyds, Box 31, Ferry Co., Wash.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Will you please make a little room for me in our delightful corner, so I can thank all who sent me school books for my children?

Several of the sisters received no answers as we moved the same week I received the letters and somehow they were misplaced.

Dear Miss Bender. I got your books all right and my children are studying in them at school. I was more than pleased with the little primer as it was the same kind I studied at school. One dear sister offered to send me the books called "Little Men," and "Little Women," and if she still has them, will she please send them. I read the books when a child and would be so glad for my children to read them, too.

I would like some old-fashioned song books with notes in them, such as were used at Fairfield, Tenn., about eighteen or twenty years ago, also will some of my old schoolmates, who write to me, send me some.

I lost my Bible in the storm we had last fall. Everything we had was destroyed at that time.

The claim factory here will soon have work for us and we all glad I am sure. Shut-ins as I have been shut in nearly all summer with neuralgia and rheumatism. I have nearly lost courage to live, for it seems as if I could hardly face the future with so much suffering.

Will the sisters that have them send me cuttings of different kinds of flowers, also seeds, that I can make me a garden.

My four oldest children go to school. They cook breakfast and dinner and clean up the house before going to school. I feel I have very good children.

I am twenty-nine years old and have been married thirteen years. I have six children—four boys and two girls, ranging in ages from five months to twelve years. My children are all large for their age.

I enjoy our corner where everyone seems a friend. May the choicest blessings from above come to our best magazine, COMFORT, and its editors is the wish from a Florida sister.

MRS. BRYANT NEWELL, Oaxambas, Fla.

DEAR SISTERS OF COMFORT:

Will you allow a young mother-sister to join your very helpful circle? I am sixteen years old, five feet four inches tall, weigh one hundred and ten pounds. My mother is a very sickly woman and I have been main "push" for several years. I took care of five brothers and sisters, the youngest being one year old, when I was not quite eleven for a little over a month, when my mother was away to be treated. I did all of the washing, ironing, scrubbing, etc., for papa and the five children. Mama is now at the hospital and I care for her, and try to be a mother to all of my brothers and sisters. My eldest brother, who is eighteen, is working away from home.

Lost Cabin is a small country town of about one hundred and twenty-five inhabitants. We have a high school, Sunday school, store, saloon and two hotels. "The Oasis," being considered one of the finest in central Wyoming.

Wyoming is not prospering as much as she did. There are too many cattle and sheep men running stock on the same sections of land. Feed is not as good this year as previous.

We have parties, clubs and dances here for amusement. I enjoy reading better than anything and have read a great many books. I am always glad when the mail man brings dear old COMFORT. I think the Sisters' Corner one of its very best departments.

I just started to high school when mama was taken sick so am very much disappointed in my educational advantages. I love to write stories and shall try to have one published in COMFORT if you dear sisters will not laugh.

We live on a ranch of six hundred and forty acres and have about seventy-five head of cattle, fifteen horses, four pigs and about sixty chickens. We would have had over one hundred but someone stole them one night when we were all away.

I will now go to "my baby" as she is crying. God bless dear COMFORT and its shut-ins.

MISS MYRTLE V. WOOLF, Lost Cabin, Wyo.

Miss Woolf. You are certainly doing your share of helping out in your little corner of the world. That you are courageous and an inspiration to those about you I am sure, and I hope most sincerely that your dear mother will return to you well and strong.

I regret that your years in the high school have been denied you, but it is in such a good cause that you will strive to offset it in other accomplishments.

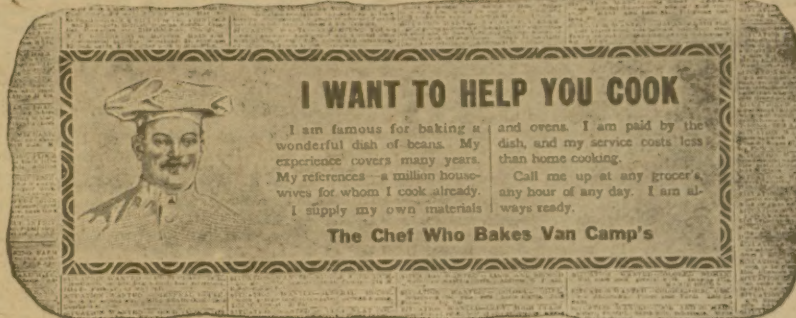
Keep up your reading of good literature; there's nothing better toward self development.—Ed.

DEAR EDITOR AND SISTERS:

I enjoy our corner very much as it contains so many helpful hints and I can always learn something new, as the old saying, "We are never too old to learn."

I would like to shake hands with Mrs. E. F. Lowe, for certainly I am in accord with her sentiments regarding the Clifton Club.

What a happy home Mrs. A. Shunway must have surrounded by such a lovely family. How I should like to see you all and how I wish there were more like you! What a happy world this would be.



Trial Dish, 10 Cents

THIS chef simply typifies our army of cooks—the best bakers of beans in existence.

You employ them from day to day. You pay by the meal—10, 15 or 20 cents—according to the size of your table.

When you want pork and beans, and want them delicious, their meals are always ready.

THE baking is done in our kitchens.

The beans they use are Michigan beans—just the whitest and plumpest—picked out by hand.

Their sauce is made from whole, vine-ripened tomatoes. It is baked with the beans, so its sparkling zest permeates every atom.

They use steam ovens, heated to 245 degrees. That's why Van Camp's are digestible, while home-baked beans are not.

No beans are crisped, none broken. They come to your table nut-like, mealy and whole. That's because we don't use dry ovens.

THE beans are sealed up and then sterilized, so the fresh oven flavor is kept intact.

And they cost less than home-baked beans. That's because we are baking for a million homes.

If you serve one dish, then take a vote of your table, you are bound to employ this chef.

"The National Dish"

Van Camp's
BAKED WITH TOMATO SAUCE
PORK AND BEANS

"The National Dish"

These are the finest beans ever baked. You can prove that by simple comparison. They have more users than all other brands combined.

And in this cheap, nutritious, universal

food the best is none too good. Beans are 84 per cent nutriment.

Order one can from your grocer now. Learn what this dish means. You will then always want a dozen cans ready on the pantry shelf.

Three Sizes: 10, 15 and 20 Cents Per Can

Van Camp Packing Company (Established 1861) Indianapolis, Ind.

(188)

I have been married nearly five years and have one little son of eight months, who, of course, is the joy and pride of our home. He is healthy and usually strong for his age and weighs seventeen pounds.

How many of you know that by mixing a little sweet milk in your hard water before adding the bluing will prevent streaking. Also that a few drops of ammonia or turpentine added to your wash water will help loosen the dirt and bleach?

Mothers do you teach your daughters the culinary art? Do so, by all means. I can look almost anywhere and see the homes that are made wretched to a certain extent through the wife's inability to cook. You oftentimes hear of such cases, and it is a pity that these daughters should be brought up in perfect ignorance of the art of cooking and also all other homemaking arts. Cleanliness is one of the most important things. Be neat and clean in all things, not forgetting your own personal appearance, and your children will most naturally do likewise.

Now for a few words for the cities of Duluth and Superior, situated at the head of the Great Lakes, where the adjoining country is rather hilly and another, for one day may be intensely warm and the next the breeze may blow off the lake and be so cool that you have to wear a coat.

A great deal of trade is carried on by sail. There are many beautiful buildings and parks and the scenery is grand. The adjoining country is rather hilly and the soil is red clay and black loam. The farmers have small tracts of land and engage at truck farming, being close to a good market and can dispose of anything you have.

We bought forty acres last fall ten miles south of the heart of the city, but are now living in town as my husband is employed here.

Well winter is coming, so must draw our chat to a close and think of making something warm. I would like to hear from the sisters. With kind greetings to all and wishing Mr. Gannett and all his helpers success in their work, I am, your sister.

Mrs. RUTH KILBORN, 523 Baxter Ave., Superior, Wis.

Mrs. Kilborn. The art of home making is something that we cannot talk too much about or make too impressive.

I believe there are no achievements in a woman's life which she values more highly than those taught by mother, or the lessons learned from mother's council, perhaps not appreciated for years afterward.

There is no question but the cause of many divorces spring from too little home attention, and late, cold and hurried meals.

There are many girls who are not naturally domestic, and for this class, without home training, thoughtlessly plunge into matrimony is unfair to the men they marry, and besides they will find life pitifully hard.

If every mother would take her own experience as a guide, many homes would be saved.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT READERS:

I have been a reader of COMFORT for a long time, and always enjoy it. You will no doubt be surprised to hear that I am an Indian. My forefathers were the genuine Americans—the noble Indian race.

I guess I will describe myself. I am five feet three, dark hair and eyes and dark skin. I live in the famous Flathead valley.

You would be surprised to see how the country has been settled since the reservation has been thrown open. The Eastern people have an idea that we Indians are uncivilized and scalp every white person we see, but they are very sadly mistaken, for we are peaceful people when we are let alone. The Western Indians are all getting civilized nowadays, and if they were off the reservation you would not take them to be Indians.

Ronan is a new town; the country is beautiful. The valley is a great, big, open place, and looking to the west you will see the mountains; but looking to the east is what gives the valley its wondrous beauty. The high-peaked Rockies are clad with snow through the summer months, although it is eighty in the shade in the valley. Crops this year are just wonderful. Now I think I have told you enough about our country and the vast plain where the buffalo used to roam. There are only a few of the Pablo herd on the range now.

COMFORT is certainly a wonderful name and I look forward to its coming each month. Sometimes I will stop my work to read.

I have been married nearly four years, and as we

have no children, I would like to adopt one and will ask your assistance. I want a young child, preferably an orphan, will give it a good home and education. I am a Christian and a firm believer in education.

Later I will tell you about Lewis and Clark; an incident concerning these famous explorers that never reached print in the United States History. My grandfather knew them personally, for he was a chief of the Colville Tribe of Washington.

I am a COMFORT reader, Mrs. CHRISTAL McLEOD, Ronan, Box 10, Mont.

Mrs. McLeod. Thanks for your extremely interesting letter which it gives me pleasure to print.

We shall all look forward to hearing about Lewis and Clark, and equally interesting would be a sketch of your grandfather's association with them.

You do not exaggerate when you refer to the "genuine Americans—the noble Indian race," and in our schools every boy and girl is taught to honor this strong, fearless and dignified type of man.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I received my copy of COMFORT today and sat right down and read the sister's letters. I most frequently do, and I was so touched with one or two I decided to write.

I can fully and deeply sympathize with Mrs. Steed. Over five years ago we came here from away down East for my husband's health. He was a very ambitious, hard-working young man, and of sterling worth. We both struggled and derived ourselves of many pleasures and comforts of life in order to build and furnish a good, substantial home, and were just beginning to realize the fruits of our labor when last May, my husband met with an accident, and died three days later, without ever regaining consciousness.

We have three dear children, the oldest five, the youngest now eighteen months, and, oh, how we miss papa! But surely God knows best, and He doeth all things well. When I read and hear of troubles like Mrs. Carr's, I feel there are worse things than an honorable death.

Now I would like to ask for a little help and advice from the sisters.

My oldest and youngest are strong, healthy boys, but my little girl aged three and one half years has always been very delicate with lung trouble and the doctors advise a milder climate.

I am very thankful that we have been left with enough means to keep us comfortable, but there is none to spare, and I would like to be situated so as to be able to do something towards educating my children in future years.

Can someone tell me of a good climate where I could get a small place of land, not too far out in the country, where I could raise poultry, have cows and a garden? I am not a farmer and have never lived on a farm. We came here from Philadelphia, but I think the country is the best place for a mother alone to bring up her children.

Next to that I would like to know of a small grocery store in some small town.

The main object is, however, the climate. I do not like to leave here where we are well known, and where everybody has been kindness itself, but for the sake of my little daughter, I am willing to make any sacrifice.

I am not very strong and am afflicted with very poor eyes, for which I have soon to undergo an operation, but when COMFORT comes I am always tempted to strain them, and suffer after, but the letters always cheer me.

Now, I will close, wishing every reader health and contentment. Sincerely yours,

Mrs. ETHEL CAMPBELL, Williston, Box 653, North Dakota.

DEAR SISTERS:

Will you admit a sister from Maine who has long been a silent reader of dear old COMFORT? I know only too well how to sympathize with all of the sick and sorrowful ones, for I have been in poor health for over seven years and as I have no home and hardly any relatives I have many lonely hours, but God has promised never to leave or forsake those who trust Him, and His promises never fail.

I have always worked very hard until my health gave out, but now can do very little. I have been a widow over twelve years and am alone in the world except for one daughter and she is not well.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)

In Wolf's Clothing; or, At Great Sacrifice

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

A stormy evening—a deep valley between high hills. A man in stooping position examines the ground and slips into his pockets fragments that he picks up with a trowel. He hastily conceals himself as a small figure on an Exmoor pony appears. The rider, Nora Ryall, barely seventeen, goes down the valley and to the tumble-down stable, where she cares for her pony. Entering the house she inquires of Martha, the woman of all work, for her father. Reginald Ryall, weak and wavering, is a strange contrast to his daughter, who inherits from a Scotch mother, strength and ambition. The Ryall land is mortgaged and the home practically in ruins. Nora manages the estate, and her father complains of his narrow life—without a break and his intention of going to London. Nora asks no questions, but her eye rests on an envelope addressed in a lady's handwriting. At supper-time Martha can only talk of Sir Joseph Ferrand and the grand doings at the Hall. Going to the barn she finds Ned fast asleep. A heifer is missing, and she starts in search of it. Coming to a gap in the hedge, bounding the Ferrands' land she sees Brindle, Sir Joseph's cousin, Elliot Graham, who is in the capacity of a caretaker on the Ferrand estate, assisting her. Mr. Ryall goes to London, leaving Nora free to ride over the hills with Bob, the sheep collie. She meets Elliot Graham who asks permission to ride on the Ryall estate. The following afternoon she discovers a stranger fishing in the Ryall water. She is a keen angler and shows him a better way to hook the fish. Requesting him to stand at one side she tries for one on the opposite bank. The cast is short and she stands on the bank of the river. Pretending she is slipping in he puts his arm around her waist. Nora utters a cry and before she can turn, the faithful collie pushes him, he loses his footing and slips in the stream. Elliot Graham witnesses the scene and inquires the trouble. Nora honestly explains that Bob resents the stranger's familiarity and is responsible for his fall. Elliot introduces Miss Ryall of Ryall—he has been fishing in the Ryall water without permission, and apologizes. Nora tells Elliot of Mr. Ferrand's audacity, and fearing a quarrel between them prevents Elliot from following him. Elliot wishes he bore the relationship of brother and will keep Mr. Selwyn Ferrand from annoying her again.

CHAPTER IV.

NORA abandoned fine feathers; they had only laid her open to the advances of Mr. Selwyn Ferrand, and returned to her dearly beloved farming attire. She went about her work with a novel lightheartedness; and as she scampered about on Tommy her deep contralto voice woke the echoes of the hills. But she no longer rode astride, for, unconsciously, she was always expecting to meet Elliot; and when, a week later, she saw him in the distance, her heart gave a little jump of pleasure.

Three days later she was singing about the house in the evening, when she was startled to see one of the Nelsworthy flies turn in at the gate, for Mr. Ryall's return was always attended by as much fuss as his departure, and he had not written to tell her of his coming.

She ran down the stairs, calling out joyfully:

"Martha! father is here!" hoping, as she did so, that there was something in the house for his dinner.

But when she reached the door, she stood as if transfixed; for Mr. Ryall was assisting a lady to alight. Nora stared at her with open eyes and mouth. The lady was not young; she was rather good-looking in a flamboyant style, with a mass of reddish colored hair, dark eyebrows, and a striking complexion, none of which, however, appeared, even to Nora's unsophisticated eyes, to be real.

The lady looked not only tired but rather out of temper; and she glanced somewhat contemptuously at her surroundings. Mr. Ryall was wearing a new light suit and lavender gloves; and, before Nora could recover from her astonishment, he led the lady up the steps with a would-be jaunty air, and said in a voice that shook a little, for all his jauntness:

"Well, here we are, Nora; taken you by surprise, eh? This is my little girl, Amelia."

The lady drew her thin lips into a winty smile and nodded, half-defiantly, at the amazed girl.

"I am your new stepmother, my dear," she said. "You look surprised, and so you are, of course." She giggled, and wagged her head with affected archness. "Reginald and I thought it best to keep our marriage a secret. I do so 'ate a fuss; and explanations are so tiresome, ain't they? Well, aren't you going to say that you're glad to see me?" she asked, her smile still more forced.

Nora resolutely drove back the threatening tears, and holding out her hand, said very quietly:

"How do you do?"

"Oh, come, that's not the way to welcome a stepmother," remonstrated the lady. "You must give me a kiss, my dear. That's better." She added, when she had succeeded in bestowing a kiss and a dash of *poudre de riz* on the tip of the shrinking Nora's nose. "You mustn't treat me like a stepmother; we shall be like sisters—I am so young, you see."

"You would like to go up-stairs at once, wouldn't you, Amelia dear?" interrupted Mr. Ryall. "Nora, will you take your mother—"

"Take Amelia—"

"That's better," remarked Mrs. Ryall. "It would be too ridiculous to be called mother by a girl as old as that."

"Take her up to her—our—room," wound up Mr. Ryall.

"Martha will take you up," said Nora as quietly as before.

Martha, pale with excitement and dismay, came forward, and Nora followed her father into the library.

She stood by the fireplace, and looked at him in silence; presently, with a feebly apologetic smile, he began nervously:

"Perhaps it was rather foolish to take you by surprise, Nora; but—er—I thought you might—er cut up a bit rough. You see, I daresay it never occurred to you that your father might some day—"

"he gave a foolish laugh—"lose his heart—"

"Where did you meet—? Who is she—?" Nora broke in chokingly.

He coughed nervously. "Where did I meet—? Well, the fact is, Amelia is—er—quite a famous lady. She is, or rather, she was, a celebrated actress—on the music-hall stage—"

Nora sank into a chair, and covered her face with her hands.

"I happened to see her one night—happy night for me," mused on Mr. Ryall,—"and fell in love with her at once. Of course I know what you are thinking, Nora—but Amelia is very different to other people of that kind. She is the daughter of a clergyman—a dean, I believe."

Nora, unsophisticated as she was, felt that it was all wrong, that he had been entrapped by an adventuress; and she listened in a kind of stupor as her father feebly dilated on his great good fortune.

She was almost relieved when the lady herself entered, attired in a cheap and bizarre evening dress, with a plentiful supply of obviously false jewelry.

By Charles Garvice

Copyright, 1908, by Street and Smith.

Serial Rights by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

"Oh, 'ere you are," said Mrs. Ryall. "Is dinner ready?" She looked round the shabby room. "What an old 'ouse this is; and what a dreary place! And how shabby you've let your furniture get. I wonder you could go on living in such a place as this."

Nora rose, and going towards the door, said very quietly, very slowly:

"It is my home."

CHAPTER V.

Nora lay awake that night with a misery too deep for tears. That her father should have married again was bad enough; but that he should have married such a woman, and sprung it upon her in such a manner was almost unendurable. She was amazed that he should have been so palpably deceived; for even she, unsophisticated as she was, had read the character of the woman at the first glance. But the thing was done, and she had to make the best of it.

Notwithstanding her sleepless night she was about her work as early as usual next morning. When she returned to breakfast she found her father at the table alone, and looking rather disturbed.

"Your mother—" he began, but Nora broke in quietly:

"Don't call her that, father."

"Well, Amelia then, if you are so particular, has a bad headache, and Martha has taken up her breakfast. I am afraid," he went on nervously, "that Amelia was not altogether pleased—I mean rather disappointed—with the place. You see, she's been used to such luxury. And she says—I mean I think—that the house is—er—shabby. Of course we can't alter everything at once; but I suppose we could do up some of the rooms. What do you say, Nora?"

"I daresay it is shabby, father," she said gently, "and that we ought to have some new things; but I don't know where the money is to come from."

"Oh, that's all right," he said, with a foolish laugh. "We can get some furniture on this new hire system. I will ask Amelia to see about it; it will amuse her and cheer her up. How is the farm getting on? By the way, that's rather a

Nora explained, "and there is a great deal to do. I have always looked after the farm."

Mrs. Ryall tossed her head.

"Well, it seems to me I've been pretty well taken in," she said. "From what your father said, I thought he was one of the landed gentry, as they call it."

"He is," said Nora. "The Ryalls have been here for hundreds of years. I do not think my father intended to deceive you. But we are very poor."

Mrs. Ryall gave a little snort of contempt. "What's the use of being landed gentry if you are poor?" she said. "I expected to come to a decent place, to the regular kind of thing; nice house, plenty of servants and horses and all that."

"I'm sorry you should be disappointed," said Nora. "We have only a rough country cart, and the pony I ride."

"A pony," said Mrs. Ryall. "well, that's something. Reginald," Mr. Ryall had entered sheepishly, and glanced at her face as it might be a barometer. "I have been telling Nora that you must get me a pony carriage. Of course I shall want to drive out and pay visits, and that must do, if there's nothing better."

He looked nervously at Nora.

"Yes, yes, of course," he said; "we'll get a little chaise. I'm sure Nora will be very pleased to let you have her pony."

"Her pony," echoed Mrs. Ryall, raising her eyebrows. "I thought it belonged to the 'ouse. However, it don't signify, as long as I 'ave something to drive about in. Is this all there is for lunch?" she added disdainfully, looking at the cold mutton and rice pudding. "No one can say I'm faddy about my eatin', but really—"

"I dare say Martha could cook a poached egg, or some little trifle, eh, Nora?" said Mr. Ryall; "you see, Amelia's been use to—"

"Something better than a poached egg," broke in Mrs. Ryall scornfully. "But I daresay that's the best that woman can manage. I never saw such a creature. I shall give her notice if she don't improve. What is there to drink?"

Mr. Ryall timidly suggested a nice glass of ale; but the lady turned up her nose at the home-brewed October ale.

"I 'appened to bring some whisky with me," she said. "It's on my dressing-table—no, it isn't"

been an unspeakable relief to lay his whip across Selwyn's back.

"It would do him no end of good," he said to himself. "But that's the worst of being a man—you can't say 'No' to a girl. To think that a great hulking chap like me should promise to let that fellow off without a hiding because a bit of a girl asked me to. I don't understand it. I never felt like that before." And pondering over the strange influence, he rode round the valley to the little cottage where he lived, close to his beloved horses.

He went round the stables, to see that the horses were comfortable for the night; and was returning to his supper, when he saw a jingle, drawn by an Exmoor pony, coming down the narrow lane. In the jingle was a daintily-dressed lady whom he recognized as Miss Bartley, Elliot, raising his cap, was passing on, but she pulled up and said:

"Does this road lead to the Hall?"

"No," said Elliot, in his direct fashion. "You must turn back and take the road to the left."

"Oh, thanks," she drawled, and, unseen by him, her keen eyes ran over him quickly. "I have lost my way," she added appealingly. "This little beast has taken me half round the world, and he only consented to stop when he got into this road."

"He knows the place, knows me," said Elliot, patting the pony affectionately, and producing a piece of linseed cake from his pocket.

"He has the advantage of me," said Miss Florence pleasantly. "What is your name?"

"Elliot Graham," he said. "Strangely enough he felt none of the shyness that assailed him when he was with Nora."

"That is rather a nice name," said Miss Florence. "And what do you do?"

"I look after some of Sir Joseph's horses," replied Elliot.

"How very interesting," she said. "I am awfully fond of horses. I should like to see them; may I?"

"Certainly," said Elliot but without enthusiasm, for he was very hungry.

As he was hitching the pony to the railing, she wondered how, he obviously a gentleman, came to be in that subordinate position. Now, Florence Bartley was not the kind to ask questions, even of herself, for mere curiosity's sake. She was one of a type of numerous girls who move in smart society. Her father was an impecunious Irish baronet, a hanger-on of Sir Joseph Ferrand's, for whom he did yeoman service by acting as director in the various more or less bogus companies promoted or financed by his patron.

From an early age Florence had had to fend for herself; society is divided into two classes: The rooks and the gulls; and from sheer necessity she had become a rook. Sir Joseph found her almost as useful to him as her father; and he relied on her to secure titled guests whose names among the list of his visitors in the Morning Post, would add to his social prestige; and rich men who might be induced to buy shares when Sir Joseph was anxious to sell them.

Florence's position, in fact was that of a creature, a dependent. It was understood that she should find a home with the Ferrands whenever it was convenient to her; but she was restless in her state of servitude; her hopes of escaping by a good marriage had not been gratified; and she panted to get hold of some secret of Sir Joseph's which should place him in her power. She was like an octopus, throwing out feelers in every direction; for she was convinced that Sir Joseph was playing some deep game down in this wild part of Devonshire. She felt sure also that this young fellow, Elliot Graham, was playing an unconscious part in some scheme of his employer's.

She was not an impressionable girl—she knew she could not afford to be—but she was conscious that Elliot had made an impression on her. Had he been a man of wealth and position, she would have laid herself out to win him; for he was just the kind of man to whom such a girl as Florence Bartley would have surrendered body and soul.

Unconscious of the thoughts in the mind of his visitor, Elliot led her to the stables, and, in a business-like way, conducted her from stall to stall. Miss Florence expressed the greatest interest; once she approached too near the heels of an equine lady, and Elliot catching her bodily whiskered her out of reach, as if she had been a bundle of straw.

"Oh, thank you," she exclaimed, with a little catch of her breath.

"How strong you are. If ever I had the ill-luck to offend you, I should apologize before you had time to strike—I am awfully obliged to you for taking so much trouble; I must come and see your horses again," she added with a lingering side glance at him.

"I shall be very pleased to show them to you at any time," said Elliot frankly, quite unconscious of the glance.

He was putting Miss Bartley into the jingle again, when a pitiable object came into sight. It was Selwyn Ferrand. Miss Florence's beautiful face lit up with a smile of derisive enjoyment.

"Why, Mr. Ferrand!" she exclaimed.

"I knew," he said sullenly. "I fell into the water—after a big trout—what are you doing here?" he demanded blusteringly, turning to Elliot.

"I am putting this lady into the jingle," said Elliot.

"I will do it," said Mr. Ferrand; "you go about your business."

Elliot, as if he had not heard the order handed Miss Bartley the whip and closed the door with a deliberation that infuriated Selwyn. Miss Bartley, catching the sound of approaching footsteps, took up the reins, asked the woeful-looking Selwyn if he would like a lift, and on his refusing, drove off with a nod and a smile, leaving the two men confronting each other.

"Look here," spluttered Ferrand, "I don't know who or what you are; but I suppose you are one of my father's servants."

Elliot nodded.

"Well, you're an impertinent fellow, and want to be taught your place—"

"I don't think so," said Elliot, with his slow, good-tempered smile. "I know mine right enough, and it isn't at the bottom of the river."

Selwyn spluttered with rage, as he burst out with:

"I shall speak to Sir Joseph, my father. You will find yourself discharged tomorrow morning."

Elliot shrugged his shoulders. "I'm not so sure of that," he said, in a reflective way.

"Oh, aren't you!" snarled Selwyn. "Then you can take your discharge from me."

"I should prefer it from Sir Joseph," remarked Elliot casually.

"You insolent scoundrel!" cried Selwyn, and maddened by the imperturbability of his opponent, he raised his arm.

Elliot caught it with his left hand in a grip (CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)



seedy get-up of yours, Nora; Amelia noticed it last night."

Nora's face flushed, her lips tightened; for, with all her good-nature, she was quick-tempered.

"Mrs. Ryall—Amelia—will soon get accustomed to my old clothes, father," she said. "What does it matter? Besides, don't you see that you'll want all the money we can spare, and more, for her clothes?"

It was so incontestable that Mr. Ryall could not dispute it. They ate the remainder of their meal in silence; and when it was concluded Nora went out again upon the farm.

When she returned to lunch she found that Mrs. Ryall had come down. The lady did not improve by daylight; her peculiar appearance required the glare of the footlights; and Nora looked at her aghast.

"Oh, 'ere you are at last," said Mrs. Ryall snappishly. "What 'ave you been doing with yourself all the morning?"

"I have been in the dairy making the butter," said Nora wearily; "and this morning, before breakfast, I rode round to see that none of the young cattle had strayed."

Mrs. Ryall stared at her with a mixture of surprise and disgust.

"Do you mean to say that you do that kind of thing?" she demanded. "Don't you keep people to do the farmwork?"

"We have only one man, with occasional help,"

—I put it at the bottom of my wardrobe—you can't be too particular not to leave spirits about. Run up and fetch it, there's a good girl!"

Nora went up. The room reeked of the cheap scent which Mrs. Ryall favored, and resembled the dressing-room of a quick-change artiste; clothes of various glaring colors were thrown about in every direction. With her heart sinking still lower, Nora fled.

Mrs. Ryall took the bottle, and poured out a liberal dose.

"I don't usually touch spirits in the day, but I feel so low," she said. "And now Reginald dear—"

But Nora, murmuring an excuse, hastily made her escape. As she rode across the valley on Tommy it seemed to her as if she were trying to ride away from the intolerable situation; and yet it must be endured, for the woman was firmly fixed at Ryalls, her father's wife, and nothing could alter the fact.

CHAPTER VI.

Elliot rode home, after the river incident, his mind a jumble of emotions, among which, of course, predominated his sympathy for Nora, and his contempt for Selwyn Ferrand. He must stand by his promise to Nora, but it would have

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

Some poor people for whom I used to work give me a home with them and in return I sew and do what I can. I am handy with a needle and sometimes have clothing given me that I cut over into nice warm garments which is a great help.

If you ever salt anything too much, just put in a generous pinch of sugar and see how quick the salt will vanish.

Now I wish all who can would write me for it would cheer my lonely hours. God bless you all.

Mrs. A. F. THOMPSON, Oxford, Maine.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been thinking this rainy afternoon of how many poor suffering ones there are among our COMFORT band, and as I have never seen a letter from Fairmont, perhaps our dear editor will give me one little corner.

The city of Fairmont has been well named for I am sure that a fairer spot could not be found in all Minnesota. Fairmont itself lies mostly on the shores of Lake Sisseton and Bud Lake, with Hall Lake joining on the south. Lake Sisseton is the smallest and was named after a tribe of Sisseton Indians who used to pitch their wigwags and make their homes on its shores in the early days.

On the shores of these lakes, before the whites settled here the Indians roamed and camped and built their camp-fires under the mighty oaks. There are many romantic Indian legends connected with this place.

How sorry I am for the unhappy ones. I am twenty-three years old, have a happy home, a dear little boy of nine months and a good husband, who is engineer at the electric light plant.

All over the city are beautiful homes. Our Court House stands high upon the shore of Lake Sisseton. Fairmont has eight churches, a pretty opera house, three hotels and some fine business blocks and stores. We have three fine public school buildings, and an attractive Carnegie library, and also five literary clubs.

I wonder how many Royal Neighbors there are among our readers? Our camp has one hundred and eight members.

I would like to hear from you sisters, and I should enjoy coming again with one of the legends of Fairmont.

Mrs. A. C. LEEPER, Fairmont, Minn.

DEAR READERS:

Here are some real secrets of a professional feather worker on how to renovate ostrich plumes. I have tried it myself and I can truthfully say if these directions are carefully followed it will be quite easy for you to keep your black and white plumes looking as good as new.

An ostrich plume that is only slightly soiled, may be freshened by steaming it over a kettle of boiling water. Feathers that are much worn and thin looking will require more heroic treatment.

To clean an ostrich plume, wash it in plenty of warm soap suds, giving especial attention to the tip, this point of the feather is always more soiled than the rest of the plume. Rub the entire feather very gently between the hands, taking great care so that none of the dues become broken. The feather must be as thoroughly rinsed as it has been washed. After the rinsing is over mix a half cup of raw starch with a pint of cold water, and let the feather stand in this about ten minutes. To dry it, place it between the folds of a cloth, and pat it gently. Care is the chief thing. After it is taken from the cloth hang it in a draft to complete the drying process, when it is thoroughly dry shake the plume well so as to free it from all starch. If it is a black plume brush it with a fine hair brush so that no starch is left along the quill.

When you have finished the cleaning process, your feather should look twice as large as it did, and as fluffy as when you first bought it.

In the October number of COMFORT Mrs. Tomlinson wished to know how to clean a leather couch. I have tried this way with much success. First turn your couch on its side and beat it with a broom to get out all the dust, then take warm soft water and white soap and wash thoroughly; dry with a cloth and then go over it with yellow vaseline, rubbing in with the hands or a cloth.

You will find your couch like new. The vaseline keeps the fibrous from cracking and scaling off.

From one of COMFORT's readers,

MISS MINNIE ENGELBRECHT, Cleves, Ohio.

MY DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you please write around just a little and let a fifteen-year-old girl into your charming circle? I only weigh one hundred and fourteen pounds, so you see I'm very small. I have light hair, blue eyes and fair complexion.

I have one brother and no sisters. My father and mother are both living.

My mother has rheumatism in her arm sometimes and I will send you her remedy which relieves almost instantly. Mix quinine and lard together, making a thick paste of it. With this rub the affected parts and put some on a piece of flannel and bind around.

Will you please remember me with a shower on my birthday, January 3rd.

Your loving friend,

ALMA WELLS, Eufaula, R. R. 1, Ala.

DEAR FRIENDS:

When I wrote to the corner last winter I did not expect to get so much help and good cheer from my effort. I have been remembered in many ways besides the cheerful letters, full of good wishes and encouragement. It makes me feel thankful even in my darkest trouble.

Last winter was a hard time for me, with a sick husband and three children to keep by my own work at washing, ironing, sewing, housecleaning, etc. We leave our homestead every winter, like most other homesteaders and have nothing to work at in the winter season. Besides the weather here is too cold for my husband. The zero weather and the deep snow from November to April is hard for feeble people. We used to Montrose for the winter; the climate there is mild.

I have been very busy this summer, taking care of the crops, and keeping the irrigation going. Besides I have had the washing and ironing and sewing for the neighbors. My husband became very seriously sick with abscess on the liver last August, just at the time we had planned to improve our homestead some and keep up our claim. He had been doing the housework, caring for the children, etc., which left me free to do the outside work. I have got so behind with the work since my husband became sick, and bedfast, that I sometimes think I will have to give it up. Then I read some of the sisters' letters and I can take renewed courage and go ahead.

Just now it is time to store our small crop of vegetables. I must dig them by hand and put them in the cellar. My husband worries a great deal to think he has become an extra burden to me. But I cheer him up and tell him he is doing a good share of the work, for he can sit up in bed or in the big chair and sew on buttons or teach the children their daily lesson from their school books. He can teach them some poems from Longfellow, or some other classic writer, or tell them a story from some of the great writers. He can sit in the big chair and direct the work of our two little girls, aged six and eight years respectively, as they learn to cook, wash dishes, sew, draw or write. All these things help, and it keeps my husband from despair. It is hard for any ambitious person to give up and become a totally dependent invalid. But Providence rules over us and we should submit to it, provided we always strive to do our very best. I tell my husband that he is doing his very best and that is all anyone can do.

I wish I could see all the sisters who have written to me. I have answered everyone, and am still in touch with several sisters who write regularly.

Mrs. Robinson of Springfield, Mass., Mrs. Meek of New Haven, Ct., and Miss Nettie Walker of Iowa. Some of the sisters want to come to Colorado. To these I will say again that Colorado has many good features. It is the easiest, healthiest place in the world to enjoy life after one has a good home, on an irrigated farm. The trials of redeeming a homestead are great and I would not advise one to try it, unless they have money to clear at least forty acres for cultivation. Then they can make a living while they reclaim and improve the rest of the land. There are many deserted homesteads in Colorado. The government land for homesteads now is usually isolated and in far-away lonely places, and one who is used to society and churches and social club meetings and such, usually get tired of the country and will leave before they get a title to their claim.

I know that there are thousands of good families in the East who would come out West and reclaim a farm and build a good home for themselves where they could enjoy life; but they cannot possibly do it; their hands are tied because of these expensive times. They are doomed to stay where they are and slave it out. I will be glad to help anyone who wants to come out West.

Your faithful sister of COMFORT,

Mrs. NETTIE B. WALKER, Cimarron, Colo.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Your letters are everyone so interesting that I love

to read them. I enjoy my COMFORT paper more than any I take and have often thought of writing but somehow neglected to do so until today when I read the editor's request to write on the subject, "What does it mean to be a Christian?" I could withhold my pen no longer.

To me it means everything. I would rather be a child of God, poor and unknown, burdened with sickness and heart ache, than to have the wealth of the world at my command and be a child of the world.

Then, too, in other ways it means so much. I think we, as Christians, will not speak evil of another. If we cannot say a kind word we should be silent; John 4:7. Beloved let us love one another. Also if we overtake one in a fault, to consider ourselves lest we also be tempted.

And I don't think it right to mistreat a fallen girl; no indeed we know not what was the cause or whether by our love we may bring her back from the path of sin, and give her the courage to begin a new life.

It may be you know, that it wasn't for love of a sinful life that she sank to the depths of despair. It may be her heart so longed for love, and that there was no one on earth to care; it may be mother had gone on before; father, too, had crossed the tide, and her heart cried out in loneliness and pain, for a love that would ever abide. I say God pity the dear girls that are tempted and tried and have no dear mother to guide them. Let us be loving, sympathetic and kind, bearing one another's burdens, for this is Christlike.

I pity and I pray for every shut-in. I belong to the Christian church. I have four children, two boys and two girls, my youngest—my baby, is a brakeman, and oh, how I pray to God to bring my boy home safe from each trip, and how thankful I am for answered prayer. Oh, I don't know what people do that live out in the world and don't recognize the dear Saviour's love and haven't a dear Heavenly Father to rely on.

I am far from perfect. I wish to be better and am trying my best to do right.

Sisters, do you think that Indian Runner ducks would make too much noise on a city lot?

I like my chickens, but in spite of everything I do, they get sick one way or another, and I do get discouraged. I am not well, and so if I could manage the ducks it would be easier for me.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mrs. EMMA KNEPPER, 132 East First St., Mansfield, Ohio.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS AND MRS. WILKINSON:

I have been a silent reader of dear old COMFORT for over a year, and just feel as though I can't keep still any longer. Am wondering if our dear Mrs. Wilkinson will consign me to the waste basket or give me just a little space in her cheery corner. How I wish I knew her and all the dear sisters.

I have only been married a year and a half. We live on a farm, and I don't believe I could content myself in the city again. I always lived there before my marriage in dear, old historical Virginia. While I will always love Virginia, I now love old Iowa just as much. I have a beautiful little home and am kept busy.

I tried my luck in the chicken business last summer, and was so successful that I will try it on a larger scale next year. We used the incubators, and raised only the Plymouth Rocks.

A "greenhorn" at lots of things yet, but am going to learn how to do everything. My first attempt at feeding a young calf wasn't very successful, as I would give him my finger, and now he won't drink unless he has a piece of stick or stone in the bucket.

In making a happy home, both husband and wife must have part in the work. Let every woman pursue her own course regardless of what another does or does not. Do your best, and that is all anyone can do. And if you should get discouraged go to him who promised to love, protect and honor you, and if he is the man he ought to be, you will get comfort and encouragement. And I think after all that "every cloud has a silver lining." Look on the bright side of life. In a great measure we create or mar our own happiness and make our lives what we will or will not.

I suppose some of you will wonder if I practice what I preach, and I will say that I do so far as it lies in my power. But each day I seek room for vast improvement in my life, and I try likewise to improve it. I am fortunate in having a dear, good, kind husband, and am so happy, my heart just aches for those who have so many trials and disappointments. I try to make home as happy as possible. A woman is gifted but if she bestows it on pugs or poodle dogs, or striped cats, then "hubby" is likely to go to the corner grocery or saloon, or possibly some worse place.

I do so enjoy our editor's talks and think everyone should read them. I hope God will give her good health to carry on the good work.

I remain one of the COMFORT's sisters,

Mrs. P. W. NORTON, Elma, R. R. 4, Iowa.

Mrs. Norton. Your words "And if you should get discouraged go to him who promised to love, protect and honor you," speaks of a confidence that should never be lacking between husband and wife, for when once destroyed, discontent steps in.

It is so often that something may arise which for various reasons it seemed best to either keep to one's self or act upon secretly. This may at first "prick" the conscience, but if successfully carried out again and again, you argue that after all it was the best and easiest way; that you have saved annoyance to someone else. But this is not right and in time will work havoc.

"But all men are not alike and will not meet their wives in a loving protective way when trouble and sorrow come to them," I am sure some of you will say, and that you are in the right I must admit.

But if the husband can be shown that the wife seeks him on all occasions because of her great faith in his love for her, in time she may win, and her life will be sweeter and fuller for it.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

May I drop into your circle for a little chat?

We live in northwest Arkansas, coming here a year ago and like it fine.

I like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

My daughter has taken COMFORT for some time and when the paper arrives I look for the Sisters' Corner. I would like to read the letters as they are interesting and helpful. I have nine children and they have all been a blessing to me. Only one is married, and she lives in western Kansas.

Are you a Mince Pie enthusiast?

Then join the None Such league. Thousands of families have found a way to get this greatest of all desserts as often as they want it without the work and fuss and expense that Mince Meat making requires.

They make the crust and we make the Mince Meat—

NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT

"LIKE MOTHER USED TO MAKE"

A Mince Meat that has been winning over housewives for 27 years—a Mince Meat that few cooks can equal and none can surpass. Consider a bright, airy, sun-lit kitchen—a shining example to any kitchen in the land. Consider the perfection that 27 years of Mince Meat making must develop—consider the buying power of a house that gets its beef in 400 ton lots and apples by the train load.

You must consider these things because they are what make it possible for us to make a Mince Meat so good which you can buy for so little.

A 10c. package of None Such makes 2 big, wholesome, appetizing pies. You get it at your grocers in dust-proof, paraffine-lined packages. Join the None Such league—get a package today and try it.

MERRELL-SOULE CO., SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
Member of Association for Promotion of Purity in Foods



any way after we have tried it. I don't think any of us "will turn the other cheek." So many just let whipping become a habit, and oh! the remorse when the dimpled hands are folded in death. God gives us the precious darlings to love and cherish and we must take care not to abuse His trust lest He take them to Himself where they will receive no frowns or blows, but only the loving kindness of Jesus and His angels. From a children's friend,
Mrs. RENA JOHNSON, Frederick, Okla.

Mrs. Johnson. I admire your courage in coming out just as you have in this matter of child whipping. I have witnessed acts similar to those you write of, and have so resented the outrageous and cruel treatment for the child, who in such cases is seldom old enough to give self defense, that the impression of the scene has been with me for days afterward. And the result and extent of the mother's wrong doings does not stop with whipping her young child, for in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred this child will grow up to be abusive to its parents. Why? Because one of the strongest traits in human nature is a feeling of resentment toward the person who ill-treats us, and a child reared in such environment uses blows and bad language as its weapons; they are simply "giving back" the same treatment that has been dealt out to them since infancy, causing them to go through life with a resentful, quarrelsome and suspicious disposition.

I tell you sisters that it's the mothers who rule the world. It may be that the father is the one who holds the child, but even then, if the mother holds a refining and loving influence, her child will not lose its confidence in mankind, for he has seen the right against wrong.

The Maine State Insane Asylum is in Augusta, and from good authority we learn that blows about the head in childhood have sent many a boy and girl, man and woman to this institution for an incurable brain disturbance.

Let us all use our influence wherever and whenever possible to teach the lesson that a strong, gentle hand best guides the boy and girl to future usefulness.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Since last I wrote this department, we, husband and I, have been very busy on our "little new farm," building, clearing, etc., trying to make a home which we hope will be all our own some day. At present there is a mortgage, but I did not come to tell you about that. What I most wanted to tell you about is my little home which is not very large, but plenty roomy enough for just us two, as our home is not blessed with any little ones. We mean to enlarge and build as we are financially able. My husband did all the carpenter work himself and has planned everything with an eye to saving steps, and not many large houses are as convenient, cozy and handy as ours.

Much has been said and written against the old-time pantry but to me my pantry is the "happiest" part of the house. It is large enough so I have a table along the east side where I do all my dish-washing, mixing my bread, pastry, etc., keeping all such litter and mess from the rest of my house. It is located in the northeast corner of the house with a window in the north end. Along the west side I have four shelves running the full length of room on which I keep my empty fruit cans, crocks, pans, tins, etc. A partition divides my shelves through the middle and the south end holds my dishes before which I have curtains hanging. I also have a little closet devoted entirely to my medicines and home remedies, so I always know where to look for what I want. Just above my table I have a spice cabinet made of a small wooden box (some day I mean to have a factory made kitchen cabinet), in which I keep my sugar, molasses, tea, coffee, spice, soda, etc., and with my flour sack right at hand, there is no running or hunting for missing articles, and it seems to me with everything so handy the work is already half done.

And best of all I have the "dearest" little cellar under the north end of the house with a trap door in the pantry from which a flight of stairs leads down. It is surrounded with a concave wall with a shelf of same material running all around sides and ends on which can be kept fruit cans, pumpkins, cabbages, etc. I feel proud of my cellar as it solves so many problems which would otherwise confront me in my little house, for I can keep my canned fruit, butter,

cream, pickles, meat, potatoes, vegetables, bread, and have even stored my house plants down there when I feared they would freeze in the winter time. Oh, I tell you sisters, there is nothing like having things handy.

When evening comes and husband and I are comfortably settled in our rockers, he with his pipe and magazine and I with my writing or a book, a feeling of restful content steals over us and we feel repaid for the hard work of the day and feel satisfied in our own home, for we are seldom, either of us, away from home at night.

Now for a few "helps" to help pay (if I can) for some of the great good I have received from dear old COMFORT.

A remedy which is finding favor in these parts for bladder and kidney ailments is a mixture of one ounce each of extract of buchu, essence of winter green and sweet spirits of niter. Dose is one half to one teaspoon for adults in half a glass or more of water, three times a day.

For indigestion you will find sodium phosphate a good stomach regulator if taken after each meal. Dose, one half to one teaspoon dissolved in hot water.

One of the very best blood purifiers is extract of red clover, or the dry blossoms may be steeped and the tea drunk. The extract is more convenient.

This is the way I wash: As soon as breakfast is over, I put my wash boiler on the stove half full of cold water to which I add three tablespoons of washing powder, one half bar of good laundry soap sliced fine, one tablespoon each of turpentine and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)

2 Silver Candle-Sticks \$1.00

Wouldn't they look pretty on your Thanksgiving Table? Wouldn't they make an ideal Christmas Gift? These Candle-Sticks are a pretty ornament for Dresser, Side-Board, Table, or Mantel, beautiful in design and stand 12 inches high, with holder and shade. Made of quadruple silver plate that will last for years. Regular price \$1.50. This is an introductory offer to acquaint you with the Gift Book, our catalog of inexpensive Holiday suggestions. Send your order to-day, as the supply is limited. Complete as illustrated, 6c. each. Fair \$1.00. Money back if not satisfied. Dept. M.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS CO., 3rd Floor, Tribune Bldg., New York City.

I WILL MAKE YOU PROSPEROUS

If you are honest and ambitious write me today. No matter where you live or what your occupation, I will teach you the Real Estate business by mail; appoint you Special Representative of my Company in your town; start you in a profitable business of your own, and help you make big money at once.

Unusual opportunity for men without capital to become independent for life. Valuable Book and full particulars FREE. Write today.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE REALTY CO.
23 N. N. Building
Washington, D. C.

"A Kalamazoo Direct to You"

And Gas Stoves Too

Will You Write a Postal to Save \$5 to \$40

That will bring the Kalamazoo Store Book free with full particulars of the \$5 to \$40 saving, the \$100,000 bank bond guarantee, 400 stoves priced and described.

30 Days' Free Trial
Freight Prepaid—Cash or Credit
30 Days' Approval Test. Prompt shipment, 170,000 customers testify this is the greatest stove offer and the Kalamazoo the finest stove made. Get catalog 501.

Kalamazoo Stove Company, Mfrs.
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Secret of the Great Cabal

Mysterious Madame of the White Shoulders

By William S. Birge, M. D.

Copyright, 1911, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

CHAPTER V.

WHAT HAPPENED AT TUXEDO. MADAME OF THE WHITE SHOULDERS SHOWS HER HAND.

IT was ten o'clock when once more I entered the office of my chief. I found him awaiting me there. Ray had just come from my rooms with news of importance from the House with Green Blinds. A short time before, the people in the street and the houses near had been startled by the noise of a heavy explosion. It had come, as well as they could make out, from the house he had been watching. The police had been summoned and an effort made to gain admission to the place. No reply had been obtained to the ringing of the bell, and they were now preparing to force an entrance. The chief had waited merely to give me the information, and we at once set out together. There was the inevitable crowd of people before the house, through which we forced our way. The door had been broken open and a policeman guarded the entrance on either side. As we went in, a noisome odor of chemicals filled the air. We made our way to the drawing-room, where I had been the night before. Here, upon the table, I discovered one of my revolvers, and underneath it a piece of paper, on which was scrawled the word "Be-ware!"

From here Ray, who had preceded us, led the way up-stairs again to a small skylight room in the rear of the house. We discovered there shelves filled with bottles, retorts, pestles and mortars, and books piled anywhere about. On the floor, his head torn and burned beyond recognition, lay Jackson. I knew him by his yellow hands and peculiar dress, and saw that his own devilry had been his undoing. We went carefully over the room. It contained all descriptions of materials for compounding explosives. Half-finished infernal machines, wheels and springs scattered everywhere, and various memoranda which were of value in their way. Near what remained of the man we discovered on the floor a dark stain, which at first sight I thought to be blood. A closer examination, however, revealed the fact that it was either claret or some other deep red wine. In one of the yellow hands was gripped a small vial about which a scrap of paper was wrapped. Written in English upon it was the following words: "In two gills of claret, one. In champagne, two. For action in the first case, five minutes. In the second, seven."

The vial contained three or four small white pellets. A man was sent for a bottle of Piper-Heidsieck. Of this he poured a small quantity into an empty bottle, and dropping in one of the white pellets, placed the whole upon the window ledge. Closing the sash, I stood, watch in hand, and waited. Whether simply poison or some stronger and stranger thing I did not stop to wonder; but as the number of minutes recommended in the note crawled slowly by an uneasy sensation came over me, which made me draw back and motion the others to do the same. The next moment the stillness was broken by a dull report and the falling of shattered glass. We started forward. The glass lay broken in small bits. A portion of the stone coping had been torn away. The bottle was nowhere visible.

I knew little of chemistry. Whether the man Jackson had made a great discovery in producing a material upon which the action of certain kinds of liquids was necessary to bring about a concussion by absorbing with the various degrees of strength contained in the fluid the hard outer coating of his preparation, and bringing the delicate interior into contact with some foreign substance, or whether such methods are generally known and practiced by the profession, I cannot tell. I only thought at the time that the last link in the chain of proceedings was now without doubt in my hand.

At nine o'clock that night Ray, another man and myself were stationed in the hall of Mr. —'s great house at Tuxedo. We had been substituted for three detectives who were to have been sent down in the usual way. I had placed Ray at the entrance to the ballroom, myself near the vestibule of the house, the other man hovered anywhere about. We had not long to wait. The guests of the evening were early to arrive—the great man short-breathed, ponderous but genial; his young wife handsome and gracious. Behind them came a small sprinkling of more or less famous politicians, members of the foreign legation, and handsome young attaches in the full uniform of their countries. Among these last were two men who at once attracted my attention; the first, by a slight peculiarity in his figure, his quick, nervous movements, the glances full of suspicion and of watchfulness which he constantly threw about—all these signs identified him strongly with the man who had kept silence the night before at the House with Green Blinds. The other was as easily discovered. The tall, well-set-up figure, ornamented by the showy uniform which he now wore, the firm lips curving into a smile that was almost insolent; the large, well-shaped head; the delicate aroma of Turkish cigarettes that floated with him—more, he lighted one as he reached the smoking-room, into which I could see from my station, and sent ring after ring of smoke curling upward. Once before I had seen him do it, but never another man so prettily.

I sent Ray to watch the two closely, and returned to my post. Again I had not long to wait. I had turned to reply to some trivial question which had been addressed to me, when the voice for which I had been waiting floated clearly toward me—a low, delicious laugh. I looked eagerly about. In the smoking-room, talking gaily to a small group of its occupants, was the hero of the English trial—the escaped convict of Portsmouth prison—the boy who had followed Miss Cutting. But I saw no one anywhere about to resemble Madame of the White Shoulders. From where I stood I watched this man until he turned to go, and then drew nearer. As he passed Ray's tall Russian, I heard him say, lightly: "Tout va bien," and then he lost himself in the crowd. I saw him go in and out among the throng, looking unostentatiously but carefully about him, and managed for a time to keep in his wake. Then I lost him entirely. For an hour I searched hither and thither, cursing my own stupidity, but without avail. I was growing desperate, fearing that after all, I should be too late, when again that voice came to my straining ears. It was in the supper-room, where the jingling glasses were playing a graceful accompaniment. I stumbled hastily forward. This time I was not disappointed. I could not but recognize her, though I had never seen her face uncovered before. Perfect in outline as a statue by St. Gaudens, faultless in coloring, and lighted by those glorious eyes which had flashed upon me through the mask—eyes I had seen matched but once, and then by those of the boy I had just so clumsily lost sight of. Her superb, squarely-moulded shoulders gleamed richly in the well-arranged lights. For the merest instant her eyes rested upon mine, and their pupils widened. I feared that she had penetrated my disguise. Then she turned again to her companion—none other than the illustrious guest in the interest of whose safety I was working. I was very near them. Looking about, I saw both the men who had been in the House with the Green Blinds, hovering near the doorway. Behind them toward Ray's well-set head. I signaled him to close in.

His orders were to arrest them as quietly as they would permit it to be done, and to await, in the carriage which had been provided, my arrival with madame.

She was standing, with her companion, near one of the tables, and I saw him pour a glass of champagne and hand it to her. He watched her, smilingly, as she daintily put it to her lips, and then turned to find one for himself. As he did so I saw madame's hand go steadily into the bosom of her gown, and, taking out a small silver vinaigrette, hold it carelessly for an instant over her glass.

The great man turned to her again and lightly touched her glass with his own.

"May fortune bring you everything which has not already escaped her," he said, gallantly.

"To a health like that, monsieur," replied her marvelous voice. "It is a custom to change glasses, that each may drink the good fortune of the other."

"A very pretty custom," he said, with a heavy laugh. "Let us follow it."

The glasses changed hands. If he should swallow that deadly thing—Good heavens! I threw myself forward, falling heavily against him. Half the wine went trickling down his coat, and he turned about with a savage imprecation. I seized the glass and poured what remained through my fingers until they touched the hard little pellets it contained. Knowing that they had not been there long enough to soften, and that there was no danger from them, I put them in my pocket, and, with what sang-froid I could muster, turned to madame and offered her my arm.

"Madame," I stammered, "is forgetful and is mistaken. In her country no way of treating a toast is so unlucky."

The great man looked dazed, but I saw his anger growing. A strange light had come into madame's eyes, and I heard her murmur an apology to him.

For a few minutes—pardon me—an old friend whom I have not seen—since—last night."

She allowed her hand to rest lightly upon my arm.

"For a moment," she said, "come in here," and led me toward the conservatory. I thought no better place could be found for the quiet performance of my duty, for I wished to avoid a scene. A maid could be dispatched for her wraps, and for my own as well, and I could conduct her, as secretly as she would allow, to the carriage which was awaiting her.

She sank upon a cushioned window seat and motioned me to a chair which stood facing it. A strange desire to humor her took possession of me. For a moment she let her eyes rest quietly upon my own.

"Your disguise becomes you," she said, critically.

"And yours," I replied, "becomes you very ill."

Her lips kept their seriousness of outline and her eyes remained fixed on mine. There was a short interval of silence, and then she rose to her feet, standing over me. I started to follow her example, but she motioned me back, and something impelled me to obey. I saw that she had unfastened a splendid tiara of diamonds and sapphires from her hair and was turning it over and over in her hands, where the light from above incessantly toyed with it. The glitter of the thing fascinated me; my eyes followed every movement. I tried to turn away and could not. A drowsy sensation came over me, the soft tones of her voice droned in my ears, sounding far away and sweet and sweeter still.

And then came a dull, monotonous rattle. A newspaper rustled at my elbow. A man's voice—Ray's—was speaking. My eyes were opened (I could not remember closing them) and I was gazing stupidly. The surroundings were familiar enough. An ordinary passenger coach, journeying swiftly along through the sweet air of a summer morning. A lot of strange people about; Ray in the place beside me, reading his paper.

"If there was such a plop afoot here," he was saying, "it seems to have slipped up without any aid of ours. It is a pretty bad business, though, anyway."

I asked him what, and he looked at me curiously.

"What's the matter with you? You've been queer ever since last night," he returned peevishly and pointed to a huge headline in his paper. I looked, and read the words: "The Assassination of President Sadi-Carnot."

For a moment my head reeled and the words danced unmeaningly before my eyes, and then a mist seemed to unfold itself from my brain, and remembrance of the affair I had just been through with came back to me. I unbuttoned my coat, and saw that I was still in evening dress.

I had no little difficulty in persuading Ray to tell me what had occurred, and in convincing him that I had no recollection of it. Finally, however, he told me this:

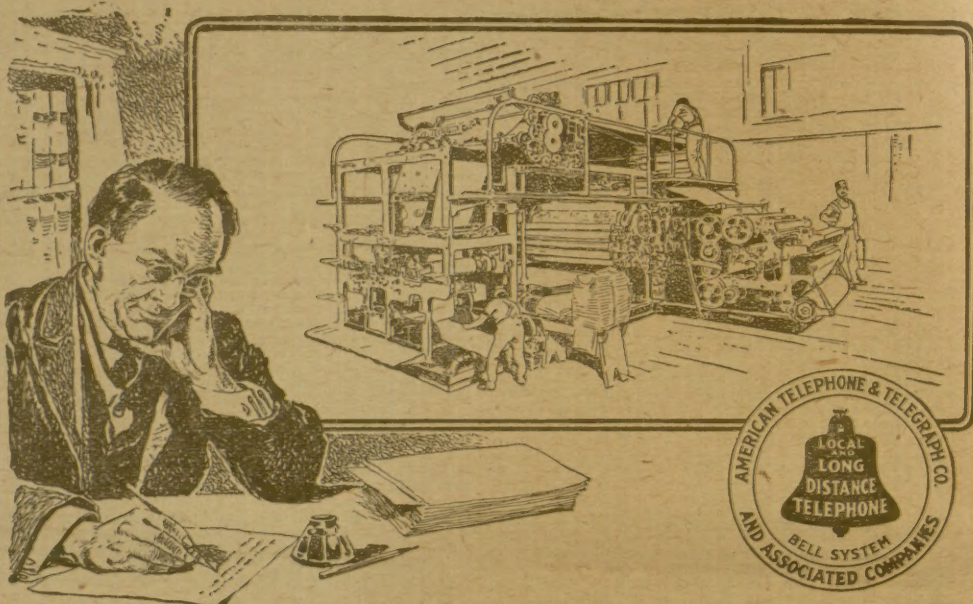
As he had been directed he waited for his cue from me before arresting the two men who were in his charge, and he had seen what took place between the illustrious guest, Madame of the White Shoulders and myself. When she accepted my arm, she had turned for an instant to nod and smile at the Russian attaché, who was also sitting closely. Upon Ray's quiet demand for a surrender, which had immediately followed, this man had followed him to the carriage without a word. The other came as quietly. They had then waited there some five minutes when I appeared, with madame leaning upon my arm. She had expressed great surprise at finding the two men there and under arrest, and had demanded an explanation from me. I had offered her the most abject apologies, and had ordered Ray to at once release his prisoners. I had assured him that the affair, from beginning to end, was a gigantic mistake; that the track we had followed was entirely a wrong one, that we had offered untold insult to three innocent people. He had no course but to credit my word. I had then proceeded to assist madame with great care into her carriage, and she had driven rapidly away, the men following in another coupe. We hastened afterwards, Ray, the man who had come down with us and myself, to the station, where I had purchased, with no further explanations to my companions, three tickets to Boston, which place we were now nearing. The third man had made himself comfortable in the smoking car, as there was no sleeper attached to the train, while Ray had sat all night beside me. During this time I had sat with wide-open eyes, staring straight before me, apparently lost in thought, and until now he had not ventured to disturb me.

And so the beginning of my first case came to its end.

Letters a fortnight later from my friend, the London detective told me that attempts upon the lives of men in certain other European cities had been made at the same time, but, with the exception of that in which the French President fell, all had been discovered and met in time.

I resigned my position at the office, and have since been devoting most of my time to trying, upon my own responsibility, to get trace of Madame of the White Shoulders. In this quest, so far unsuccessful, for the last two weeks, I have enjoyed the assistance, given with sympathetic zeal, of the girl who saved my life from her, and who no longer bears the name of "Cutting."

Should I succeed in finding madame, I hope to force her to solve two problems; the first,



For Universal Service

The Press and the Bell System

The power of the individual writer is multiplied by the printing press. In the same way the power of the individual telephone is multiplied by the Bell system. In both cases, increased usefulness comes from progress towards universal service.

By means of the press the knowledge and thoughts of writers are spread throughout the land, maintaining among all the people the common language and the mutual understanding which makes for national co-operation.

By means of the Bell system, each individual telephone becomes con-

nectable with every other telephone and each unit in the nation is given a personal membership in the most highly developed system of communication that the world has ever seen.

The press prepares people for co-operation; the Bell telephone system enables them to really co-operate. The press educates people separately; the telephone enables them to act upon their mutual knowledge immediately and at any distance.

By co-operation with telegraph and cable systems, universal service for communication is being made international.

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy

One System

Universal Service

whether she and the young man who wore a false beard and spoke with her voice were identical—the one with the other. And if so, whether she had exercised the same influence which had so swayed my mind to her will upon the jailer of the Portsmouth prison, and by so doing had effected the escape of herself and her companions upon a previous occasion.

THE END.

In Wolf's Clothing

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

of steel. His right hand was raised, but suddenly he remembered his promise and checked himself with an inward groan.

At that moment the god out of the machine, whose approach they had been too engrossed to notice, came upon them.

"Hullo!" cried a voice, and Eliot, turning, saw Sir Joseph, wiping his wet brow, with his hat in his hand.

"What the devil are you two fellows about?" he demanded. "What is it, Selwyn?"

Selwyn rubbed his arm, as he stuttered out: "This fellow has been insolent; I was discharging him."

Sir Joseph's small beady eyes shot a sharp glance from under their heavy brows.

"What has he done?" he asked. "And what have you been doing?"

"I had an accident," said Selwyn, "fell in the river. There was a girl—" he bit his lip.

Sir Joseph's lids drooped till they hid his eyes. "A girl! I see. What have you got to say, Eliot?"

"Nothing," replied Eliot, succinctly.

"This man ought to go," blurted out Selwyn.

"I dunno," responded Sir Joseph quietly. "You go on and get changed. I will catch up with you."

After a moment's hesitation Selwyn walked away, Sir Joseph sucked at his cigar in silence; then he said:

"Pity you should quarrel with my son, Eliot; you've got a hot temper, I'm afraid. But you need not pay any attention to what Selwyn said. You will stay until I tell you to go. Understand?"

Eliot laughed. "It's not difficult to understand," he said.

Sir Joseph, with a nod, turned as if to walk away; then he said casually:

"Who was this girl you had the trouble about?"

"Miss Ryall," replied Eliot.

Sir Joseph ejaculated an inexpressive "Ah!" and walked on. He overtook his promising son, who began at once:

"Look here, father, that fellow—"

"You want me to discharge him, eh, Selwyn?" said Sir Joseph. "Well, understand that I am not going to get rid of a man who suits me because he happens to have got the best of you; so there's an end of it. Seems to me you've been making a fool of yourself, not for the first time. You had better go round the back way; you look like a drowned rat."

CHAPTER VII.

Mr. Selwyn Ferrand's evil star was certainly in the ascendant that evening, for he was fated to meet with yet another discomfiting experience.

He was wending his way to the Hall along a by-path when he suddenly came face to face with an individual who was approaching in a somewhat extraordinary manner. He shambled along with a slight limp, his head thrust forward, and his long arms swinging at his sides. His gait and shabby appearance, taken in conjunction with a perfectly pallid face and start-

ling red hair, were so incongruous with the scene that Selwyn involuntarily stopped short and regarded the man with an irritable amazement. This instantly gave place to furious anger, when the newcomer's mouth stretched into a grin.

"Who the deuce are you?" he asked, furiously. "What's your business here?"

"I've come to see Sir Joseph."

"To see my father, have you?" snapped Selwyn. At the words "my father" the man's jaw dropped and his manner became servile and apprehensive.

"I—I beg your pardon," he whined. "Why, it must be Mr. Selwyn."

"Oh, go to the devil! You are an impudent scoundrel! I don't remember you."

"I am Striple—Sir Joseph's confidential clerk, sir," explained the man, his body bent in apology and deprecation.

"You'll find my father in the path there. I'll let him know the kind of manners his confidential clerk displays. Be off!"

With an oath Selwyn hurried past him.

Striple found his master seated on a felled tree. He had two letters to hand over to him. One was from Australia.

"I'll give you the answer to this one," said Sir Joseph, tapping the envelope which bore the stamp of "Gilly and Roberts." "Tell them I'll attend to it—and they are not to write again."

"And the Australian letter, Sir Joseph?" inquired Striple, meekly.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

Music Lessons Free

IN YOUR OWN HOME.

A wonderful offer to every lover of music whether a beginner or an advanced player.

Ninety-six lessons (or a less number, if you desire) for either Piano, Organ, Violin, Guitar, Banjo, Cornet, Sight Singing, Mandolin or Cello will be given free to make our home study courses for these instruments known in your locality. You will get one lesson weekly, and your only expense during the time you take the lessons will be the cost of postage and the music you use, which is small. Write at once. It will mean much to you to get our free booklet. It will place you under no obligation whatever to us if you never write again. You and your friends should know of this work. Hundreds of our pupils write: "Wish I had known of your school before." "Have learned more in one term in my home with your weekly lessons than in three terms with private teachers, and at a great deal less expense." "Everything is so thorough and complete." "The lessons are marvels of simplicity, and my 11 year old boy has not had the least trouble to learn." One minister writes: "As each succeeding lesson comes I am more and more fully persuaded I made no mistake in becoming your pupil."

Established 1898—have thousands of pupils from seven years of age to seventy.

Don't say you cannot learn music but send for our free booklet and tuition offer. It will be sent by return mail free. Address U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 12, 225 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Instruments supplied when needed. Cash or credit.

You will want the 1912 Coca-Cola Girl Calendar

We will send you this beautiful Calendar, illustrated in sixteen colors, on receipt of 2¢ to cover postage.

The Coca-Cola girl is more fascinating than ever—you will like her. She will remind you that whenever you're tired or thirsty to

Drink

Coca-Cola

the one beverage that will refresh you, quench your thirst and please your palate.

Our new free booklet, telling of Coca-Cola vindication at Chattanooga, for the asking.

THE COCA-COLA CO.,

P. O. Box 1734

Atlanta, Ga.

Whenever you see an Arrow think of Coca-Cola.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

was always for others. The last night of his life he wanted to know if I was not going to sleep some. I told him I was going to stay with him until he got better, and he seemed glad to have it so. He always enjoyed your writings so much. I gave him a copy of your poems Easter, and oh, the happy hours we spent reading them. I read the June number of dear old Comfort to him while he was sick, and he enjoyed it, as he always did. It is hard, so hard, to give him up, but for the hope of meeting him again it would seem more than I could bear. I feel that I now have a treasure in Heaven, and the chief aim of my life will be to meet my child, where there is no parting, no pain, no death.

Uncle Charlie, can you tell me why the most beautiful and fragrant flowers are always plucked first? God's ways are truly past our understanding, and yet we know they are just.

May God's blessings rest upon you always, and give you strength to continue the noble work you are doing, is the prayer of a sorrowful mother.

MRS. REEFUS GALLOWAY. (No. 20,380.)

Your letter, dear friend, touched me deeply, and no words of mine can express how sorry I feel for you. Hundreds write me of the death of their dear ones. Their hearts are so full of sorrow, that the only relief they can find is to ask others to share with them the burden of their grief and suffering. I would I could relieve and give solace to all those whose hearts are torn and rent asunder by the loss of father, mother, husband, wife, sister, brother or child. If any word of mine could help you, dear friend, or thousands of others who are mourning the loss of their dear ones, it would not be withheld, but alas, I can do little to heal your wounded heart, and most sympathy, no matter how well meant, too often results in tearing open wounds which time had mercifully commenced to heal. You are a Christian, and therefore can find relief and solace in your hour of trial, where others who are unacquainted with God cannot. Remember this is the only world in which a Christian can suffer, and in that other world to which we are traveling, there will be no suffering, so let that comfort you. Never think of your child as dead, but as living. Think not of him as a flower that has withered or perished, but as some lovely flower that has been transplanted, and remember that that flower, beautiful as it was on earth, now touched by divine hands, is blooming in richer colors and sweeter fragrance than any flower of earth. When the morning star disappears and fades from your view, you know that its light has not gone out forever, but it is merely hidden for a while, and you know that in a few brief hours it will be shining again in all its glory. The light of the star is not lost to us, neither is your child lost to you. Your boy is not gone away, he has merely gone before. In that book of mine which you read over with the dear little chap, you are now mourning, there is a verse in the poem, "God Knows Best." Let me quote it now, it may help and comfort you as I know it has comforted many others:

"I have looked in the eyes of an agonized wife,
As a wee little life ebbed away,
I have felt in my breast the turmoil and strife,
As we gazed on the poor silent clay,
I have felt fierce rebellion sweep up in my soul,
As I yearned for that little one's kiss,
And I've said as the tears down my cheek 'gan to roll,
'Could a merciful God have done this?'"

"But ah! when the first throb of anguish was past,
When the wounds were less jagged and sore,
I thought of that babe in the right world above,
An angel of God's evermore.
'For of such is the kingdom of Heaven,' Christ said,
Then the wife to my side I would call,
And I'd point to the skies, and we'd both dry our eyes,
For 'twas God who knew best after all.'"

You have seen a bright, fleecy cloud fade away in the heavens with the first breath of morning. Better perhaps that it did so fade, for it might have lingered and gathered more clouds, and finally covered the earth with darkness, and burst in storm and tempest. Those who are taken from us in childhood, are like those fleecy clouds of the morning. They are drawn up into heaven, and so saved from the rack, worry, storm and tempest of this transitory life. Remember time is merciful and heals the deepest wounds, and time will reconcile you to your loss. Christ said: "Because I live, ye shall live also." This brief existence of ours today is merely a preparation for that higher life. Our existence here is but a breath, compared to the existence we are yet to live. In a little while we shall all be with those who have gone before, and all the hardships of this life will be forgotten in that brighter land where there is no suffering, tears or partings. Now, I would like to make a few remarks about appendicitis, which may be helpful to millions of our readers and perhaps save them from the loss of dear ones. Lots of people don't know even where the appendix is situated. It is down on the right side, near the prominent projection of the hip bone that you feel just below your ribs. It is close to the junction of the small and large intestines, where the former enter into the latter. Appendicitis is a dangerous disease and there is no particular way in which one can avoid it. Gas frequently accumulates in this region, and causes many people to think they have appendicitis. Appendicitis usually begins suddenly and the pain is continuous instead of intermittent as with gas. Nausea and vomiting often accompany the pain, and generally continue at intervals throughout the attack. There is tenderness over the inflamed appendix and the abdomen in this region becomes hard and drum like. (When the pain is caused by gas there is no pain upon pressure of the affected region.) There is also fever, and a rapid pulse. If a good surgeon can be obtained and hospital facilities, the best thing to do is to have the offending appendix immediately removed. Unfortunately, people postpone an operation until the affected region is full of pus and the appendix gangrenous, and then it is no wonder that death

ends the patient's misery. An immediate operation in a first-class hospital by a first-class surgeon will save ninety-eight or ninety-nine out of every hundred of those who are attacked by this disease. Probably it would have saved the life of poor little Adrian Galloway if done in time. Unfortunately country people cannot always command the services of a first-class surgeon. Surgery requires great skill and constant practice, and this the country practitioner seldom has. A great many country doctors are capable, skillful men, but there are too many who are graduates of low-grade medical schools. This was proved by a recent investigation. If I had my way the state should employ or subsidize a number of expert surgeons, giving each a certain section of the state to cover. These surgeons could be reached by telephone or telegraph, and could be at the bedside of any patient in his district, within from four to six hours. The state surgeon, should be accompanied by an assistant and trained nurses, and he should have all the necessary apparatus for conducting, with the assistance of the local practitioner, all operations which are serious and urgent, and which do not permit of the patient's removal to a first-class hospital. Under this system few country people would die of appendicitis. No doubt the country doctor does his best, but he must realize the limitations that are necessarily imposed upon him by conditions and lack of hospital facilities. Everyone suffering from appendicitis should, if possible, be rushed at once to the nearest city for operation. If I were President of the United States, and given absolute power for a few days, or even hours, I would compel every state to keep several big traveling hospitals on wheels run by gasoline, and capable of making twenty miles an hour. These traveling hospitals should be constantly on the move in every section of the state, operating on cases beyond the skill of the local practitioners. The traveling surgeons could publicly lecture on hygiene, physiology, care of the body and the prevention of disease. I should also compel every doctor in the land to undergo an examination every two years, so as to force him to keep up with all the latest discoveries in medicine and surgery. Those who failed to pass their examinations should be forced to go to school until they could pass. If they still failed to pass their diplomas should be confiscated. This would keep all incompetents out of the profession, and force all medical men to keep up to date. If first-class physicians can't make a living in country districts they should be subsidized by the state, and patients too poor to pay for treatment should be treated free of charge. Thousands die yearly in this country because they have not money to secure proper treatment. The practice of medicine should be lifted out of the rut of commercialism. The health of the nation and the life of its people is too tremendous a problem to be tainted by the demoralizing dollar. Put my ideas into practice, and we would save nearly half a million lives annually in this country that are now wasted. If I were President I would not if it were in my power allow a single human being to blame God or lay at the door of Divine Providence, the loss of one single life, let alone the tens of thousands of lives which are now sacrificed on the altar of ignorance and incompetence and for which God gets the blame.

COLEMBIA, MISS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Please let me know through the COMFORT'S League of Cousins what is the most suitable public work for young ladies just starting out to make their way in the world. I have just finished in the high school and being one of a large family I would like to get a good position of some kind in order to support myself. I have always had a dislike to teaching, country schools and I don't think I could make a success of it. I will send you a little poem that I wrote while in school; it is the first and only one I have ever written. Please tell me what you think of it. My English teacher said it was the best one written in our class.

A little girl on a summer day,
Ran out in the sunshine warm to play,
She wandered on to the ocean strand,
And laughed in glee at the soft white sand.
The sun shone bright on her golden hair;
She seemed a vision wondrous fair.
Soon o'er the sand crept the treacherous wave,
And the vision was swept to a wat'ry grave.
So 'ere the setting of the sun,
The sea its cruel deed had done,
And in a cottage home that night,
The mother wept till her heart was light.
For naught was left of the little girl,
Save a baby shoe and a golden curl.

"HOPEFUL."

Hopeful, I seldom if ever reply to young ladies who do not give their names. All anonymous letters, or letters sent with *nom de plumes* hit the waste paper basket. I want however to advise you and others to the best of my ability, and that has saved your letter from Billy the Goat's appetite. You don't want to become a school teacher, though that is by far the best work a country girl can take up. My encyclopedia informs me that Columbia, Miss., has a population of five hundred and forty-seven. If that is the case, I take it that there is little chance for you to become a stenographer and enter a business office. A stenographer in a small town would naturally know the character of her employer, and would run no risk of insult or worse, as many girls do who are employed in offices in the big cities. If you worked in a store, your wages would be small and your hours long. It is hard to advise a girl (and especially one who calls herself a young lady and not a working girl), just what to do in a community that offers little in the line of employment for women. Men have hogged nearly all the good paying positions in this world. Women should receive the same payment as men for doing the same work, but they will not get it until they get a vote. Politicians make the laws and politicians have no use for anyone except those who have a vote. To go to the city and get a business education is expensive. You might go to the city and get into a hospital for a course of three years' training and become a trained nurse, and then come back home and make a pile of money nursing the sick Columbianites—if they ever get sick. You might go into the city and do general housework. If you could get into a good family where they treated you as a daughter or a sister. That is the way I treat those who work for me. You would have more money in your pocket at the end of the month than if you worked at any other employment. As most people, however, treat domestic help as dogs, and only allow them out one afternoon a week, denying them fresh air, and sending half of them to the grave by the consumption route, you had better be careful about doing domestic work. If COMFORT had more space I would ask Mr. Gannett to let me have a column in which I would start a department, "How to make money." In this department I would print all the helpful suggestions that were sent in. I know a girl who has learned to make the most exquisite candy. She has nearly a hundred private customers, as well as selling to a number of stores, employs help and makes more money than you could shake a stick at. You could go to a big city and work in a factory, office or store but your life would be far from happy, and you would hardly make enough to exist on. As you belong to a large family why not get one of your brothers to rent a small piece of land, and go into the poultry, fruit and garden produce business. He could do the rougher work. Thousands of women are engaged in work of this kind, and are living, happy, comfortable, independent lives. It is hard to advise anyone about work unless you know what they can do, and what they are best fitted for. We all have to work out our own salvation. Capable people are wanted everywhere. Good help of nearly every kind is scarce. There are tens of thousands of women stenographers, but it is almost impossible to get one that is thoroughly capable and efficient. The majority cannot spell simple words. From your letter I judge that you are a

bright, clever girl, so strike out, and after a while you will find yourself, and fill a useful place in the world. Now, as regards your verse contribution. As far as it goes it is excellent, but don't think it is poetry for it is not. Anybody with an atom of brains and education ought to be able to write good verse. Poetry, however, requires genius. As usual your little poem reeks with death, weeping and mourning. All you boys and girls who write verse, think the only way to end up a thing is to kill off your hero and heroine. This is morbid old, and shows that the whole bunch of you have not enough imagination to cover a two cent piece. I have taken the trouble to finish up your poem, starting from the lines:

The sun shone bright on her golden hair,
She was a vision wondrous fair.

Now this is how I would have finished it:

Soon there arose a great commotion,
And Neptune bobbed up from the depths of the ocean.
With mermaids and mermen a hundred score,
And all bowed low to the maid on the shore.
Said Neptune, "I'm king of the bounding wave,
Won't you be my queen in a coral cave?
We shall live a life of rapt delight,
And water stew you shall have ev'ry night.
Fried whales for breakfast, boiled sharks for tea,
And the ocean vast you shall rule with me.
On your little pink toes we'll grow a tall
And your automobile shall be a whale.
Now, what do you say, my little maid fair
Will you my ocean kingdom share?"
Said the fair little maid: "I'm sorry to say
I must bide to my home, sir, right away.
My mother is sick and her heart is sore,
For father's been drowned a year or more."
"Drowned," said Neptune, "his name tell to me,"
"Bill Jones," said the maid, then Neptune see
His little he blew, and from depths below,
Bill Jones' head 'bove the waves 'gan to show.
And soon Bill Jones on the beach appeared,
His daughter embraced, while the mermaids cheered.
The maid kissed her Dad, while Bill with a grin,
The seaweed yanked from his bearded chin.
Said Neptune, "Your father was chained below
In the coral caves where the drunk folks go.
A prisoner was he, I restore him to you,
And now we'll retire to the ocean blue.
But ere we go I will pile on the shore,
The best that old ocean keeps in store."
Then he filled her hat with oysters and pearls,
Dropped soft shell crabs in her golden curls.
Filled her pockets with lobsters, whales and sardines,
Gifts enough for a hundred queens.
Then Neptune skipped o'er the ocean foam,
While the maid and her father beat it home.
Great times there were in the home that night,
For hearts were happy and hearts were light.
They feasted long on the spoils of the sea,
A happy, united family.
Mrs. Jones she swallowed an oyster shell,
But she coughed it up and all was well.
The rest of the time was spent in laughter,
And they all lived happy ever after.

Now, Hopeful, that is the way to write a poem. No matter how well you express yourself, unless you have imagination, you will never be a poet or a poetess, or a writer of any kind. You took the little girl down to the seashore and drowned her in cold blood, or rather cold water. That is murderous. You see, I take her to the seashore, have Neptune propose to her, dig the old man out of Davy Jones' locker, re-unite the family, and give them enough sea food, if they have got an ice box and plenty of ice to keep the bunch in grub for a whole year. Don't you think that is a great deal better than the way you fixed it?—life and happiness instead of tears and death, vivid imagination instead of cold conventionalities, funny stories instead of gory stories. God gave you imagination. It is the thing that beautifies the earth. For years I lay helpless in hospitals among scenes of death and misery, but every poem I wrote was full of fun and laughter. My imagination carried me from darkness to light. If I had put death at the end of every poem I wrote, I would have been decorating a lone grave in Potter's Field these fifteen years past, for no one would have bought my stuff. Look on the bright side of life. God sends the clouds, but He only sends them that you may the more appreciate the sunshine. Stick to the sunshine, it will bring you happiness.

ST. MARTY, PA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

Uncle I am one of your twenty-four-year-old "pot" pieces, and I am sending you two poems. One entitled: "The Hero," is the first I ever tried to write, and the "Wish of a Patriotic Girl," is the second attempt.

Now Uncle if you think they are "bug house," I want you to say so before all the cousins, as I am a brave girl and never ashamed to have someone, who knows more than I do, to criticize my work and show me my mistakes. Uncle please tell me through COMFORT, so a million and a quarter homes will know, whether or not, I could ever become a successful writer.

With love and best wishes, and kindest regards and a great big hug, and kiss for you dear Uncle, I am, and always wish to be, your true and affectionate niece,

MARIE DOLORES JABLOUSKY.

"The Wish of a Patriotic Girl"

Only a sailor, on a man-of-war,
Is what I'd wish to be;
Just to defend the Stars and Stripes,
Whose name is dear to me.

To wear a cap, with name of ship
And a sailor-collar blue,
"Middy" trousers of broadcloth-blue,
A battle-ship for a house.

Just to be in a naval battle,
Just to see the dark smoke curl;
Just to whip the little "Japs",
Is the wish of a patriotic girl.

"The Hero"

Bravely a youth was standing,
Mid rain of shot and shell;
Undimmed youth mid dangers fierce,
Until our noble banner fell.
"Save the flag!" shouted the captain,
"Rescue it or we are lost,
Who'll volunteer? make haste, don't tarry,
But of this moment make the most."

Just then we saw this brave youth rush
And clasp "Old Glory"—fresh and fair;
Instantly a roar like thunder
Resounded on the morning air.
He had rescued our dear banner,
Saved our nation from further strife,
How can we but thank him, hero,
Who gave for us his noble life?

Your exquisitely penned and enchanting letter safely to hand. I am only able to publish portions of the two spasms of poetry you sent in, though if I had space I would like to have published them in their entirety, as your verses are infinitely superior to those of humbler poets who have not your genius for rhyming. First we will take, "The wish of a patriotic girl." The sentiment of this creation of yours is fine. I can just imagine how tickled to death the sailors would be to have you aboard ship, decked out in a sailor blouse and middy trousers. Every time you came on deck you would cause a sensation, Marie and if the battle-ships of the enemy were to heave in sight there is not a sailor aboard your ship that would fire a gun, or know there was a foe within a thousand miles, they would all be so dippy under the hypnotic spell of your bewitching eyes, and so entranced by the natty appearance of your graceful form in middy's uniform, that they simply would not know where they were at, so if you are a truly, strictly patriotic girl, Marie, keep off a United States battle-ship for there would be no fighting done while you were around, unless they started fighting for you. Leaving the men out of the question, if you were aboard a battle-ship, I know just what you would do. You would be putting pink bows on all the twelve-inch guns, decorating the smoke-stacks with ribbons, making a cozy

THIS ELEGANT BLACK PONY SKIN PLUSH COAT \$5.95

This well-handsome garment is made of Chase's best quality, heavy black pony skin plush, of rich and changeless finish, looks exactly like a \$50.00 Genuine Pony Skin Coat. Takes an expert to tell them apart. It's latest Paris design for Winter, 1912. A strikingly handsome, finely tailored garment, made in the charming, shapely, semi-fitting model, with large, handsome, deep shawl collar, latest turn-back cuffs, deep vents in side seams; elegant large art buttons. Full lined with beautiful satin mercerized, latest, 52 in. long. Sizes 34 to 44 in. bust measure. Wt. 7 1/2 lbs.

SEND \$1.00 DEPOSIT and we will send you this elegant, extra quality, black pony skin plush coat, O. D. by express subject to examination. The balance, \$4.95 and express charges, you pay the agent after you find the coat perfectly satisfactory, as well and handsome a coat as you ever saw and the equal in appearance of any \$50.00 genuine pony skin coat. Otherwise refuse to take it. It will be returned at our expense and we will promptly refund your \$1.00. Order the coat today, write for our

BIG FREE SPECIAL FASHION BOOK which shows over 1,000 elegant pictures of rare and beautiful Fall and Winter garments at wonder prices. Women's and misses' coats \$3.95 up, suits \$4.90 up, dresses \$2.25 up, skirts \$1.90 up, petticoats 50c up, waists 45c up, and immense assortments of dainty muslin undergarments and children's and infants' garments and shawls at state-of-the-art and low prices. We are headquarters for ladies', misses' and children's **FURS OF ALL KINDS** at below regular wholesale prices.

Full line shown in the SPECIAL FASHION BOOK. **JOHN M. SMYTH CO.** 150-151 West Madison Street **CHICAGO**

corner of the powder magazine, tacking rosettes on the torpedoes and twelve-inch shells. You boldly state that you would turn the battle-ship into a house. When you wanted the men to go below decks, I have no doubt you would tell them to go into the cellar, and if you wanted them to go aloft, you would order them to make a bee line for the attic. Oh, you wouldn't do a thing to a battle-ship. First about fighting the Japs. If the Japs once got a hold of you, Marie, they would not want to do any fighting. You would flash them a wireless from those magnetic orbs of yours, and they would all surrender at once. Those that did not surrender, you could invite aboard the battle-ship you had turned into a house, invite them to go into the kitchen and make them some biscuits like mother used to make. Those that survived the shock, you could despatch with one of the fifteen-inch bat pins, which I presume you use to hold the lid upon your dainty head. Another thing, Marie, no one male or female, whose name ends in sky or ski ought to fight the Japs. If you will remember what the Japs did to the Russians in the late wars, you would know it was not wise for a girl with the name of Jablowsky or any other name on that ordersky to pick a row with the little brown men of the eastsky. As regards your other stirring contribution: "The Hero," Marie, I must say I greatly admire the conduct of the captain, as described in your first spasm. Just get wise to that captain. He knew his biz all right. Hear him screaming to "Save the flag, rescue it or we are lost," and yelling for volunteers and incidentally making "lost" rhyme with "most." I don't blame the captain for getting

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

SAW YOUR WOOD

With a FOLDING SAWING MACHINE. 9 CORDS by ONE MAN in 10 hours. Send for Free catalog. No extra money paid, and testimonials from thousands. First order secures agency. Folding Sawing Mach. Co., 161 W. Harrison St., Chicago, Ill.

PATENT YOUR IDEAS

\$5,000 offered for one invention. Book "How to Obtain a Patent" and "What to Invent" sent free. Send rough sketch for free report as to patentability. Patents advertised for sale at our expense in Manufacturers' Journals. Patent Obtained or Fee Returned. **CHANDLER & CHANDLER, Patent Attys** Established 16 Years 928 F. Street, Washington, D. C.

30 TRANSFER PATTERNS FREE

To quickly introduce our new fancy work magazine teaching all popular embroideries; showing newest designs in shirt waists, corset covers, hats, scarfs, centers, etc., we send it 3 months for only 10c and give free the famous Briggs Stamping Outfit, all complete, containing over 60 transfer latest stamping patterns and full instructions. **HOUSEHOLD FANCY WORK CLUB, Dept. 67, TOPEKA, KANSAS.**

FREE WATCH RING & CHAIN

We positively give to BOYS and GIRLS a BEAUTIFUL American Made stem-wind, 14 karat gold watch, with diamond set case, proper size. GUARANTEED 6 yrs. Also dainty ring, set with three sparkling stones, for selling jewelry articles at the each. Order jewelry today. When sold send \$2 and we will send watch, ring and chain. We guarantee Satisfaction. **Dale Watch Co., Dept. 12 Chicago**

WANTED MEN

Prepares Firemen, Brakemen, Electric Motormen, Train Porters (colored). Hundreds put to work—\$65 to \$100 a month. No experience necessary. 500 More Wanted. Enclose stamp for Application Blank and Book. State position. **International Railway Cor. Institute, Dept. C, Indianapolis, Indiana.**

PARKER'S HAIR BALM

Cleanse and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 25c and \$1.00 at Druggists

HONEST MAN OR WOMAN WANTED

In every town to represent well-known wholesale firm. Experience unnecessary. Must furnish good references. Easy, pleasant work. Fair salary to start. **McLEAN, BLACK & CO., 2 Doly Building, Boston, Mass.**

OUTFIT FREE TO AGENTS

Best selling Handkerchiefs, Dress Goods and Fancy Goods on the market. Quick sellers, big profits, direct with a large manufacturer. Send stamp for particulars. **Maricopa Mfg. Co., 34 Water St., Brooklyn, N. Y.**

Uncle Charlie's Poems

Cloth bound, 50c Song Book, 30c Address, **UNCLE CHARLIE**, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.



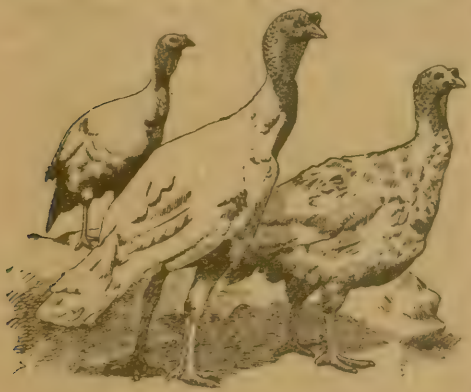
BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

Copyright, 1911, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

The Prevention of Insect Pests

I SUPPOSE poultry keeping will be such an easy business that everyone will be flocking into it, were it not for the eternal fight against worms, which keeps up work and scares people off. My mail was very heavy this month—fully two thirds of the letters were about mites or bugs. Most of the women who write seem to be horrified when they find their hens infested by such pests, for my experience has been that it is the nicely kept, presumably clean, house and flock, which is apt to be the worst. Why, is a puzzle, unless it is that women are apt to keep their fowls' home so tidily clean that one never thinks of hidden troubles, and for that reason the house and flock are never drastically attacked, as they should be, with eradicators and preventives. And, naturally, the hidden pests multiply undisturbed, and infest the whole place before their presence is suspected. Of course, everyone who owns hens, is familiar with the common yellow louse, red mite, and the large gray louse, but few people know that there are any number and variety of other pests which are difficult to discover simply because of their secretive habits. For instance, there is the depluming scab mite, which is a very minute, vicious pest, that often causes hens to be accused of feather-pulling, when in reality the poor things are only trying to rid themselves of intruders who caused them positive torture. When a bird is noticed to have bare places on neck or back or body it is well to catch it and pull out one of the feathers near the bare spot. Ten to one you will find a scaly collection near a quill. Rub it off on to a sheet of paper, and examine under a magnifying glass, and you will discover that every grain that looked like dandruff is a living mite. Another tiny atom, which burrows under the scale of fowls' legs, causes itself to be known as "scaly-legs". Many of the mysterious deaths can be traced to another variety of the same family, which attacks the air-passages in the bird's throat, and occasionally reaches to the lungs. The affected bird gets drowsy, mopes about for a few days, and at last dies from suffocation, and people wonder what has been the trouble. Then there are three varieties of fleas, so dark in color that they look almost black, which live in the soil, or cracks and crevices of poultry houses and sally forth when hungry to feed on the poor defenseless hen. One species of these crawls, instead of hopping like the ordinary flea, so people frequently make the mistake of thinking that it is a plant insect which will not molest poultry. It is all these unsuspected visitors which attack poultry at night, rob them of their vitality, and the poultryman much of his profits.

Long ago, when I first started my poultry plant, I found a recipe for liquid louse exterminator and a worm powder published in some magazine, well recommended by Dr. P. T. Woods, the great poultry expert. The liquid is easily made, and very cheap. Dissolve crude naphthalene flakes in kerosene oil. Menthathene and naphthalene camphor are two preparations put up in packages, which can be bought at any drug-store, and would do as well as the flakes, if you have any difficulty in getting them. A Boston firm puts up a preparation with aromatic naphthalene and camphor, in packages which cost twenty-five cents, and are very good. One package dissolved in two gallons of kerosene makes a good mixture



A TRIO OF HEALTHY TURKEYS.

to spray house, nests and roosts. For the birds themselves, paint the inside of a box with the liquid, and keep a bird in it for from fifteen to twenty minutes. I had a box made with a compartment one foot square, so that we could treat six birds at a time. Near the top of each compartment there is a hole large enough for the bird to put its head through, and outside we put a trough which is slightly raised from the ground, so that the birds can just reach the contents. Fill it with small grain, and they keep busy most of the time, which insures their not being smothered, and their necks passing through the hole prevents the fume of the wash escaping too rapidly. Of course, someone must remain and watch the birds all the time; otherwise there is the danger of the bird pulling its head in, and being suffocated. To be sure that the bird is perfectly clean, fumigation should be repeated three times, with an interval of three days between each. If houses are kept clean and all new birds thoroughly fumigated before they are turned into the flock, it will not be necessary to attack the whole flock more than once or twice a year. Nests for setting hens are always swabbed out with the mixture, and brood coops get a dose once a week. As soon as any hen shows signs of getting greedy, she is drenched with powder, which is well rubbed down into the "fluff" of the feathers; then on the fourth and nineteenth days she is again well powdered, and from the time the chicks are a week old she receives a dose of powder once a week as long as she broods them. The recipe for the insect powder is as follows:

To one peck of freshly-slaked lime add half an ounce of carbolic acid. Mix very roughly, and add same quantity, in bulk, of tobacco dust. Another powder recommended by Dr. Woods in the same article, and which I have used very frequently, is made by mixing equal parts of finely sifted coal ashes and tobacco dust, then moistening the whole with liquid louse exterminator. Allow it to dry and it is ready for use. When purchasing carbolic acid, ask for what is known as ninety per cent. strength, otherwise they are very likely to give you a much weaker preparation, fit only for medical use. In the case of mopey hens, shedding feathers or coughing or wheezing in the throat, it is advisable to fumigate the bird as described, leaving its head out of the box for the first fifteen minutes, so that it will be compelled to inhale the fumes of the

moisture, which will go a long way toward killing any parasitic which may be affecting the bird.

Correspondence

E. B.—Will you kindly give me a remedy for a little pest that is the cause of great loss of chickens here? It is neither mites nor lice, but is so black and tiny as to be almost invisible, but seems to suck the blood from the fowls until they die. They bother only at night. All insect remedies have been used except fumigating, but nothing seems to do any good.

A.—Read the opening part of this month's article; I think you will find the remedy you desire.

No Name.—My fowls are the Barred Plymouth Rocks. They have free range of the whole farm and are not fed much. They get small grain and some corn. Two weeks ago they began dying, and I lost in all about thirty. There were about ten old hens and the others were all pullets but one, which was a rooster. They get lame in one leg first, and in two or three days the other foot gets useless and they can't get around; seem to go crazy. Their heads bob around and can't keep still. They live for a week and starve to death. I feed them bread pills soaked in sweet milk with Pulver Panacea mixed, but their throats seem paralyzed. They have difficulty in swallowing. Their droppings are thin and yellow, like cholera, but the case is beyond the scope of my knowledge. Please give information immediately, if possible, through the mail, as it is an awful loss to me. The fowls have all shed and new feathers are coming. Why is it the pullets, and no roosters, that are attacked?

A.—I can't quite make out what is the matter with your birds. Is there much grain being harvested in your district? If so, the birds may have contracted acute gastritis through eating the unseasoned grain. Is their roosting place dry? A damp house is very apt to produce cramp or rheumatism. The symptoms you describe might also be caused by the birds having eaten putrid animal flesh. A dead rat—a wild bird—has often poisoned a whole flock of hens. You see, it is almost impossible for me to state what is wrong unless I know all the conditions. I think the best thing you can do, however, is to shut up the birds for a time, and feed carefully on boiled rice and stale bread crumbs moistened with scalded milk, and give each sick bird a teaspoonful of sweet oil.

A. T. H.—Kindly give some advice through your paper in regard to my chickens. From April to July I hatched out two hundred and twenty-one little chickens. Up to the present date I have lost one hundred and thirty-six, dying of various diseases; and the majority of them moping around, then dying off, yet I use every precaution.

A.—The fact that you have lost so many chickens from various diseases shows that there is something radically wrong with your method. Are your hen-coops and chicken houses free from dampness? How do you feed little chicks? There is nothing better than commercial chick-feed, which is a mixture of small grains and seeds, put up specially for little birds and chickens. Please write me again, and tell me all you possibly can about the birds which laid the eggs, and whether you do your incubation with hens or incubators, and how you feed little chicks. Then I will try to tell you right before the hatching season commences in the spring.

L. A. R.—Will you please answer these questions for me through COMFORT. Is there a Poultry Experimental Station in Maine, and what is the address? Do you know of any formula for growing chicks and for laying hens for feed? I mean the dry mash, as it is too expensive for me to buy ready-mixed. How can one tell the drake from the duck? I would like to start duck-raising on a small scale, but I would want to sell all the young ducks but about two drakes and six or eight ducks, but don't know how to tell them apart so young. What is the difference between Mammoth and Imperial White Pekins? I have seen them both advertised as the largest of ducks. Can Indian Runner ducks grow as fast as either of them? Would they be profitable to raise for young roasters?

A.—The Maine Experiment Station is located at Orono, Maine. For a dry mash, mix equal parts of ground corn, oats, or wheat bran, chopped clover hay, and four parts of best quality of meal or bone meal, or any of the commercial animal meals put up by poultry houses. I cannot tell you in this column how to distinguish between ducks and drakes before the curled feathers appear in their tails. There is a difference in the sound of their quack, but it is impossible to describe it. Mammoth and Imperial ducks are the same. Yes, Indian Runner ducks grow very fast, and would be profitable as market birds.

D. H.—Just a little favor. I am going to ask you would you please tell me where I could get some catalogue of poultry farming, as I am going to start on a small basis, and oblige.

A.—If you will look through the advertising columns of COMFORT, or any other magazine, you will find the addresses of poultry keepers, incubator firms, etc., etc. Write them and ask them for a catalogue, of course, enclosing a two-cent stamp for return postage.

A. H.—As I am a subscriber to COMFORT, I come to you for advice about sick chickens. I have a hen that has got sore mouth. The sore is under her tongue and on the side of her jaw near the corner of her mouth, and she is ropy in the mouth. The sore looks like raised-up white lumps, and she can't pick up anything to eat. I feel few chickens on. I had a hen die some time ago with the above-mentioned disease. Also, please tell me what ails chickens when they have a rattling, and please give advice through COMFORT. Any advice that you give will be appreciated by me.

A.—The bird has canker, a form of roup, cold, which may be contagious, and remove it from the general flock at once. Dissolve one teaspoon of permanganate of potassium in a quart of water. For use, dilute one tablespoon of the mixture with two of water. Swab out the bird's mouth and nostrils. Rattling and wheezing are usually caused by cold. You had better look over your henhouse, locate all cracks which may be causing drafts, and stop them up without delay.

R. B.—Would you please tell me what is the matter with my rooster? He throws his head back sideways, sometimes it touches the ground. He holds his head that way all the time. He is Buff Orpington, one year old. Fed on wheat and scraps from the table, water and milk to drink. Another spring chicken seems weak in the legs; falls from one side to the other.

A.—The rooster has limberneck. It is usually caused by birds eating maggots found in decaying animal matter. Give one teaspoon of sweet oil with three drops of laudanum added. Keep your birds shut up for a few days, if possible. You had better kill the hen with sick legs, as she has been affected all her life. It must be constitutional, and it is a pity to risk setting eggs from such a bird.

W. E. J. D.—I am a constant reader of COMFORT and have taken an interest in raising poultry, and would be much obliged if you would answer the questions below: 1. What is best to feed laying stock? How often should I feed the hens? 2. What shall I feed my chickens to have them grow? They are three to four months old, and they are very small. What is meant by moulting? Are scraps of meat chopped up very fine good for hens? 3. What does dry meal feeding consist of? What kind of green shall I feed in winter when I have no cabbage? How shall I be kept green during the winter months? 4. How often should a hen lay to be worth keeping? 5. How many eggs does a hen lay on average, and when stop? How can you tell a good laying hen? 6. What kind of lice powder is best for use? 7. I have a hen who has scales on her feet. Is it catching? 8. Some of my hens pull out each other's feathers and eat them. 9. How can that be stopped? 10. I would like some information on cankerizing roosters. Will a pocket knife do? Will common thread do? Or any other? About what part of the bird shall I insert the knife? About how deep?

A.—Laying hens must have plenty of vegetable and animal food. In the morning, feed a mash made of equal parts of ground corn, oats and wheat bran, and two parts of animal meal. Mix and feed dry or moist, as you prefer. New sprouted oats or whole cabbage or small grain may be scattered in the litter. At night, whole corn. If you can get fresh green bone, it is preferable to the commercial animal meals. 2. Give your half-grown chicks the same feed. Meat scraps and milk are always good food. 3. Sprouted oats. 4. A hen should lay at least one hundred and fifty eggs to be profitable. 5. It depends entirely upon the hen. 6. The bright, busy hen is usually the good layer. 7, 8, 9. Are answered by the beginning of this month's article. 10. It would take up too much space to give instructions for cankerizing. The subject has been covered in the past.

A. E.—I am a reader and subscriber of COMFORT, and I am always interested in your talks on poultry. I read a lot of turkey stories every year, and my main difficulty is in the fall, when the young birds roam over the wheat-fields picking the wheat and blade, with the result that the wheat and blades mat together in their crops, and no amount of Castor oil or linseed oil, or kneading of the crops, helps it to pass out, and in a short time the bird dies. This year I neglected keeping my flocks off of the wheat fields, and now

We Will Save You \$122 to \$228 On Your Piano

Send No Money Let Us Place This Piano In Your Parlor Now—Not A Single Dollar To Pay Us

We've sold this famous Reed & Sons Piano for more than 60 years through jobbers, dealers and agents, but now we have adopted a plan of selling direct-from-factory-to-home, completely wiping out all the "go-between" profits—giving our customers this saving.

That's why we are able to offer you not only the highest artistic quality at a price much lower than a dealer would be obliged to charge for a cheap, inferior instrument, but to trust you absolutely with a celebrated Reed & Sons Piano on as long time as you want, yes, even three years to pay for it, if you are satisfied after

30 Days' Free Trial In Your Own Home—and We Pay the Freight

We want you to have the opportunity to let your family and friends judge its sweet, sonorous singing tone quality—to admire its exclusive design and beautiful finish—to appreciate its sensitive responsive action.

REED & SONS PIANOS

Established 1842 Given Highest Award at World's Columbian Exposition, 1893

We want every owner of a Reed & Sons Piano to be absolutely satisfied and happy with his instrument. If we can not satisfy you, we will pay the freight for its return. This is the fairest offer ever made. It means 30 Days' Approval Test after 30 Days' Free Trial and 3 years' time to pay if satisfied.

25-Year Guarantee Bond

Every Reed & Sons Piano is built to give a life-time of musical satisfaction—each one that leaves our factory carries with it a written guarantee of complete satisfaction—not for a year—or 5—or 10—but for 25 years.

Take Your Time To Pay

No Interest, No Collectors

There is no need of your putting aside the pleasure of music in your home. Here is an offer which makes it possible to have music in every home—in your home. When you have tried a Reed & Sons Piano you can pay for it in small payments at your convenience—by the week—month—every 3 months or twice a year. Three years' time, or more, if you want it. Prove it at our risk.

Reed & Sons Piano Mfg. Co.
Dept. C10 Cor. Jackson Blvd. & Wash. Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Capital and Resources, \$1,750,000



Mail Coupon Today For Big FREE Piano Book

We guarantee that we can offer you a better proposition than any other piano concern in the world—make us prove it. Ask us to send you our big, free, actual photograph color-illustrated piano book, and offers to trust you absolutely with any of our Reed & Sons Pianos on as long time as you want. A 2c stamp will save you \$122 to \$228. Today is the time. Clip it out NOW.

REED & SONS PIANO BOOK

REED & SONS PIANO MFG. CO., Dept. C10, Cor. Jackson Blvd. & Wash. Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Send me your big illustrated book free.

Name.....

Street..... R. F. D.....

Town..... County..... State.....

Largest Factory-To-Home Piano Manufacturers in the World

nearly half of them are standing around, no life in them, no appetite, and with more or less of the grown wheat in their crops. I have been feeding them only in the evenings all summer a mixture of scalded barley chop and shorts, and now even that doesn't seem to pass out of their crops right. I really don't know what to do next, and I would be so very grateful if you would write to me at once and give me any help you can. If you cannot write personally, could you manage to give me your help in your talks in October COMFORT, but by the time I receive the October magazine, many of my turkeys will be past further help.

A.—If I could have helped you, I would have broken rules and answered your letter by mail. Unfortunately, I cannot suggest anything which will be of service, except to shut the birds up until the crop is well-harvested, and that your own common sense had suggested. You have my sympathy. It is discouraging to lose turkeys just when they have reached marketable age.

A Letter from One of Our Subscribers

I would like to give H. A. C. (whose query was in September issue about her chickens being weak in the legs) a little of my own experience, which may be of some help to her as well as to others. I do not know where she resides, nor at what time of the year she sent her request, but if she lives where "blue bugs" or fowl-ticks, thrive, she will have a hard fight to rid her henhouse and coops of the pest. I had my first introduction to the bugs this summer. Some of my finest chickens became crippled, could not walk, and finally could not even hold up their heads. I doctored first internally, also rubbing their legs with some good liniment, and thinking it might be some sort of infectious disease, put them in a coop by themselves. Others followed, all stricken in the same manner. The first ones were gradually regaining the use of their legs; after a few days in the coop, I examined them to see if they were hurt in any way, and found a swarm of little bugs on them. I had heard of "blue-bugs," but did not know what they were. An old friend whom I met, and to whom I related my troubles, told me to examine the cracks and crevices in my henhouse. I went home and looked, and there they were; some of them as large as cattle-ticks. They come out at night, suck the blood from the principal joints of legs and wings, and back of neck of chicken. Then, when they have gorged themselves, they creep back to their hiding-places. The poor chicken finally succumbs, and being too weak to hold up its head or eat, will starve to death. I sprayed kerosene oil in every crack, crevice, on perches, roof, ground, and nest boxes. That settled them for a little, but there is no permanent eradication of them, unless you set everything afire, and burn them out. The tiny newly-hatched attach themselves to the chicken until they are about as large as two dress-pin heads, then they drop off and hide away, and come out at night to attack the chickens on the roost. It means eternal vigilance to fight them, as I have learned they can live two years without anything. So I advise you, sisters, to let them have the oil, good and plenty. I go over my henhouse every week, and will be obliged to do so until cold weather comes, which I hope will freeze them out for a few months at least. In spring will be the same fight again, unless the bugs migrate, or I can dispose of my chickens. If any sister knows of a better remedy than kerosene oil, please let us know. Mites and lice are not half so bad to contend with.

I thank you very much for your letter. Personal experience from different parts of the country is always welcome, and I wish I could get our readers into the habit of helping each other, as you have so kindly done in this case.

My Holly Girl

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

But I wondered if I had lost out by being consistent.

I hadn't a chance to ask, for people approached and our quasi-confidential conversation was discontinued.

When it was time to leave, Miss Airfield demurely said:

"Aunt Ellen had a headache and has gone home. I wonder if I can ask your protection as far as my door. I live but two blocks away." She paused a moment, then continued: "We can walk."

We did. And this Christmas morning, my holly girl wore my cape cloak, but I did not mind the piercing cold, for my love-thrilled blood coursed warmly through my veins.

Miss Airfield was so kind, that I couldn't help remarking:

"I almost regret my consistency."

"Why?" she asked.

"Because I have lost valuable time during which I might have accomplished a certain conquest."

"I am glad you stayed away."

Was last Christmas eve's performance to be repeated? Disappointingly I asked: "Why?"

She busied herself with a bit of astonishing white holly, a dainty favor of the holly figure of the cottillon that night, and without looking at me, she answered almost inaudibly:

"Because I'm afraid it has taught me to love you."

P. S. You never told what you did under similar circumstances. Neither will I.

Come Back From the Deaf-World

DECIDE that you WILL hear. Don't accept your condition as final. May you not HAVE MISSED THE REAL SOLUTION the one CHANCE THAT YOU HAVE TO correct YOUR PARTIAL-ULAR trouble? To him or her who WILLS a thing, NOTHING is impossible with reward. **STRONG-WILLED** deaf people have come to our way and now HEAR. DEAF thousands today TO RESTORE THE HEARING is told about in a book that costs no more than a PENNY. To put into an advertisement what there is in this book would require a HUNDRED PAGES. To miss READING it might be to miss the one chance YOU HAVE to come back from the deaf-world. Merely a post card addressed to the **WILSON EAR DRUM CO., 220 Todd Building, Louisville, Ky.,** gets it. (15)

Work at Home

Weaving Rugs and Carpet SO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

\$4 a Day Easily Made

We start men and women in a profitable business on a small investment. These books for girls and Loom book.

REED MFG. CO. Box 6, Springfield, Ohio

Foy's Big Book MONEY IN POULTRY AND SQUABS

Tells how to start small and grow big. Describes the world's largest pure-bred poultry farm and gives a great mass of poultry information. Low prices on fowls, eggs, incubators and brooding machines. F. FOY, Box 1, Des Moines, Iowa

MARVEL SOLDER Instantly Mends All Leaks Solders Without Heat all kinds of Household Utensils—Enamel, Tin, Iron, Copper, Brass, etc. Patches All Machinery—Fine for Motorists.

Send 10c. for trial tube. **AGENTS:** Marvel Solder Co., 1957 Broadway, Dept. 23 New York

MONEY MAKING POULTRY Leading experts give the correct ways, breeds and games. Fine money. How to raise eggs, lowest prices, diseases, etc. \$15 year. Fine money. **H. M. JONES CO.,** Box 102, Des Moines, Ia.

MONEY-MAKING FARMS throughout 15 states; price, stock, tools and crops included with many to settle estate quickly. Mammoth illustrated catalogue No. 3222. **E. A. STROUT,** Station 3827, 47 West 34th Street, New York City.

LADIES MAKE \$3 TO \$5 DAILY SELLING DRESS GOODS, SKIRTS and HANDKERCHIEFS. FREE OUTFIT. No capital required. **Mutual Fabric Co.,** Dept. 385, Binghamton, N. Y.

WE PAY \$36 A WEEK and expenses to men with rigs to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. **Imperial Mfg. Co.,** Dept. 2, Parsons, Kan.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.)

kerosene oil, stir all together. Then I add my white clothes, one piece at a time, till my boiler is nearly full, boiling the finest articles first. The rest I put to soak in cold water to await their turn in the boiler. I let them boil up good and hard, stirring them occasionally. While my clothes are scalding I go about my morning's work, washing dishes, making beds, sweeping, etc., and when my work is done my clothes are ready in the tub to be rubbed lightly through one suds, rinsed, blueed, starched and hung on the line and at night when I bring them in they are just as sweet and clean and white as though I had spent hours in the old-fashioned way, rubbing them on the washboard.

I should like to hear from you sisters. Best wishes to you all.

Mrs. F. W. BRADSHAW, Sandusky, R. R. 3, Mich.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Almost three years have elapsed since my first letter was published in the Sisters' Corner. Many, many changes have come since then. We are still farmers, however, and expect to come a long time to come as we live. I do get a little blue sometimes over the "piles and piles" of work, but always come out some way. What I can't get done one day must wait until the next.

Since my last letter to the corner I have a fine boy to take care of my time. My children in our home and not one too many! All those who are large enough to work have their part to do each day.

We have been milking seventeen cows this summer, and making butter for customers in the town nearest to us. I have had as high as seventy-five pounds to market each week when pasture was good, but it is getting somewhat dry and I do not make so much at present. We get twenty-five cents for every pound of butter and I think it much more profitable than selling cream even with the added work of churning and working the butter.

I want to tell the sisters, especially the country ones, of the nice milkhouse we made last winter. My husband bought an old house, thus getting all the lumber needed for it. Then he made the house twelve by fourteen feet with floor above for storing many things which were always in the way before. Along one end is a water tank for cream and butter. It is made from two-inch lumber, seven feet long and two feet wide. The house is built next to the windmill on the south side. A pipe leads the water into the tank and another lets it out at the opposite end. The lead pipe sets just at the top of the end while the outlet is just a little below the top of the other, so that my milk tank is always full and if the windmill runs most of the time it is kept fresh and cool. Then close to the tank is our cream separator. Not having cement handy at the time we got a large jack oak log, sunk it into the ground three or four feet and have our separator securely fastened to that. It is solid as can be and is a very good way if one has not cement to make a block. I have shelves for my glass fruit jars and other things which are so much in the way if one has no permanent place for them. Altogether I think our milkhouse the handiest and most needed building on the place. Perhaps I have taken too much space with this part of my letter but it may give some country sister an idea of a cheap and good way of handling butter and milk.

I have been "rummaging" trying to find all old clothing that would do to make over for school clothes the coming winter. You may laugh at me, some of you, but I find the bottoms of cast aside underwear to make good warm skirts for the babies. Outgrown dresses are to be dyed and made for a younger one. Flour and sugar sacks are made into underwear, quilt linings, etc. An old shirt is sponged and pressed makes a nice coat for school wear while the worn parts will be used in making rugs.

With love to all, I am your COMFORT sister,
Mrs. NOLA JOHNSON, Galena, R. R. 1, Okla.

Comfort Sisters' Recipes and Every-day Helps.

"We can live without art,
We can live without books,
But civilized man
Cannot live without cooks."

FOR THE LUNCH BASKET.—Chop equal parts of nuts, raisins and dates, moistened with enough lemon juice to form a paste. Spread evenly on thin slices of bread and butter.

Wholesome and much liked by children is a sandwich made by spreading bread and butter and adding a little sugar and sprinkling of cinnamon. Children like brown sugar.

Another appetizing luncheon is made by splitting thin biscuits, spreading with butter and putting together again. Now put a little molasses over the top which will soak in. Bake in a moderate oven, and when cold you will have a crisp, delicious crust.

KEDGEREE.—This can be made from left-over fish and rice. Half pound cold fish, one quarter pound boiled rice, two eggs—one hard boiled, one and one half once butter, salt and pepper. Remove skin and bones from fish and break into flakes; place butter in pan and when melted stir in fish and rice, pepper and salt, and hard boiled white chopped. Add remaining egg well-beaten, stir over fire till very hot, turn onto the hot dish, rub hard-boiled yolk through sieve, sprinkle over kedgerree, garnish with parsley. This dish is worth trying.

SALMON CUTLET.—Two round tablespoons of flour, one even tablespoon of butter and one half cup of milk. Mix butter, salt and pepper. Add flour and stir until smooth where the heat is moderate. Gradually add milk and bring to boil. Season with pepper, salt and lemon juice. Add can of salmon, mix well with sauce and turn onto plate to cool. When it can be handled form into cutlets. Roll in beaten egg and then bread crumbs and brown in boiling hot fat. Garnish with parsley.

LEFT OVER MARSHED POTATO may be used in the same way. Take what is left from dinner and before it is cold, stir in the beaten yolk of an egg, melted butter, pepper, salt and parsley.

Mrs. JEANIE GRAHAM, Bicknell, R. R. 14, Ind.

TO MAKE EVERLASTING YEAST.—Boil two medium-sized potatoes and mash fine, to the water they are boiled in, add one tablespoon of flour which has been previously stirred up with a little cold water; cook a few minutes and cool. Add one tablespoon each of sugar and salt, and your yeast of yeast which may either be one cup of soft yeast or a yeast cake. Beat thoroughly, adding water sufficient to make a quart. Let age three or four days before using. When baking, scald one cup of flour with as much water as you intend for your baking, add flour to hot-cake batter consistency, add yeast and let stand over night, or until light. Save about a pint of this batter and proceed as before.

Mrs. K. C. FISHER, Atlanta, Lincoln Co., Nevada.

CHEESE.—I have ready some cheese-cloth, also cheese coloring and rennet tablets which can be had at most any drug-store. I make a press by melting the top and bottom from a gallon bucket. I then cut two pieces of board, one square which the press sets on, and the other round—fitted into the top. I strain night's and morning's milk together, let it cool and then heat to ninety-two degrees; cool again, add coloring and stir thoroughly and then add rennet which has previously been melted in cold water. (Direction will be found on bottle.) Put over fire again and heat to one hundred and two degrees; remove from fire, dip the whey off and put into smaller vessel and set by fire where it will ripen (or sour). When salt is according to taste and put into press. Put on round board cover, and put on top some blocks. Then set on stool in cellar and have a two by four fastened to the middle post, pass it across the blocks on the cheese and have a bucket with rocks in it for a weight, adding the rocks as the cheese presses down.

Mrs. JOHN HERRY, Artell, R. R. 2, Kans.

RICH FRUIT CAKE.—One pound each of sugar, flour and butter, twelve eggs, one teaspoon each of nutmeg and allspice, and two teaspoons each of cinnamon and mace. One half teaspoon of cloves, two pounds each of

raisins and currants, one pound each of citron and almonds. One lemon and a scant quarter of a cup of water.

Line two long, deep pans with three thicknesses of paper, buttering the top one. Clean currants by putting them in a strainer and rubbing with flour until the grit and dirt has separated and passed through strainer. Then place strainer and currants in pan of water, wash thoroughly, lift strainer and currants and change water till clear, pick over and dry between towels. Do not harden by drying in oven. Seed and chop raisins, cut citron in even strips of about an eighth of an inch thick; black and chop almonds fine. Reserving the citron, mix all the fruit with enough of the flour to coat it. Mix spices with sugar. Cream butter until pale yellow; add sugar, beaten yolks, beaten whites, grated rind of lemon and juice, water, flour and fruit except citron. Into each pan put a layer of dough half an inch thick and spread evenly with citron, then another layer of dough and citron until all is used. Use dough for top layer. Fill pans two thirds full and bake three hours in moderate oven.

PLAIN FRUIT CAKE.—Two cups of sugar and one and one half cups of butter creamed together. Four eggs, adding first the beaten yolks and then the beaten whites. One cup of molasses, one cup of sweet milk, one teaspoon of soda, four cups of flour, reserving a little to coat raisins, one pound of raisins, one pound of currants, one pound of citron, one pound of almonds. This cake steamed after it is baked and served with hard sauce, or sour cream sweetened and a little grated nutmeg over the top, makes a delicious dessert.—Ed.

TO STEAM.—A way that is economical of both time and fuel. For bread or pudding, put into a five pound lard pail and cover tightly. Set this into, say a ten pound lard pail, with water above half way up the side of five pound pail. Cover tightly and steam in oven. It will require no attention and less heat than on top of stove.—Ed.

STEAMED GRAHAM PUDDING.—One cup each of molasses, sweet milk, or hot water, and chopped raisins, two cups of graham flour, half teaspoon soda and half a nutmeg.

STEAMED GRAHAM BREAD.—Three cups of graham flour, one cup of white flour, three and one half teaspoons of soda, one teaspoon of salt, one scant cup of molasses, two and one half cups of sour milk. Steam four hours.

STEAMED BROWN BREAD.—Two cups of corn meal, one and one half cups of white flour, two and one half cups of sour milk (or hot water can be used), three quarters of a cup of molasses, one teaspoon each of salt and soda, one tablespoon of shortening. Steam three hours.

BOILED CORN MEAL PUDDING.—Mix one half cup of flour, one cup and a half of corn meal, and sift into it one half teaspoon each of salt, ginger and allspice, and one teaspoon of soda. Wet with one cup of sweet milk, one cup of sour milk, and one half cup of molasses. Turn into a buttered pudding dish and boil three hours.

SNOW CAKE.—Two cups of sugar, one cup butter, one cup of sweet milk, one cup of corn starch, two cups of flour, two heaping teaspoons of baking powder. Lemon.

GRAHAM COOKIES.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of shortening, grated nutmeg to taste, mix well together, add three quarters teaspoon of soda dissolved in one half cup sour milk, stir in equal parts graham flour and white flour well mixed together until stiff enough to handle, then finish on the board. Roll to thickness desired. Cut out and bake in quick oven.

Mrs. TULA STRICKLAND, Swatara, Minn.

CREAMED BACON.—Cut bacon in thin slices, cover with milk, let stand twenty minutes, remove it from milk and roll each piece in flour. Grease a very hot pan with small pieces of butter, fry the bacon in it and fry until crisp and brown. Place it on a hot platter, pour over it the cream sauce prepared from the milk the bacon was soaked in. Cream sauce should be very hot. Decorate with parsley. Serve immediately.

Mrs. HENRY BURGER, Glasgow, Box 538, Mont.

HOMEMADE CREAM CHEESE.—For a full cream cheese, take four gallons of milk. If you haven't enough of one milking, heat the last milking before to eighty-five degrees and add. Stir into it one third of a rennet tablet dissolved in two spoons of cold water. Stir until thoroughly mixed; cover and let stand in a warm place until curd becomes firm, which will be in about thirty minutes. Then cut into inch squares with a long knife. As fast as whey rises, pour or skim off, cutting the curd each time. When curd has become quite solid and squeaks when moved it is ready to press.

A gallon syrup bucket with rim melted off and holes punched in bottom will answer for a press. Cut a square of thin muslin and lay in can. Salt curd to taste, chop fine and pour in on cloth; fold corners of cloth over and press down with two flatirons. At night take cheese out, turn it over, straighten the cloth, and put on double the weight.

In about thirty-six hours, when no more whey will come out, rub cheese with salted butter, cut a strip of cloth to go around edges and lap over and two other pieces to fit top and bottom. Wring those out of hot water and press smoothly. Set cheese in a cool, airy place to ripen. Turn over every day, rubbing cloth to keep off mold.

Four gallons of milk will make a four pound cheese. It may be cut in three weeks or may be left for months.

If you have no dairy thermometer, add rennet when milk is just the temperature of the tongue when sampled. If milk gets too hot the curd is tough and the butter fat is wasted. Rough, quick handling of the curd in cutting and draining hurts the cheese, as does also too heavy a weight when it is first put in press. Great care must be taken that no flies get to it.

Mrs. GEORGIA BIERMAN, Dixon, Mont.

Mrs. ELMER. Your painstaking recipe for cheese making will be very helpful to many of our COMFORT sisters, and I think you will be glad to grant my request; also for your kind personal note. I'm glad you are from the good old state of Maine.—Ed.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

To get an attractive slice from a frisk of butter, beat a long-bladed knife in boiling water, wipe dry and proceed to cut.—Ed.

In rendering lard, drain without pressing; run scraps through meat chopper and use as a "second" quality.

To kill rats, mix arsenic with flour and sugar. The dead rats will dry up without being offensive. Note.—Keep mixture from children as it is poison; also cover wells and cisterns before feeding.

Mrs. JANET COX, West Baden, R. R. 4, Ind.

When roasting beef, set the pan on top of stove where it will get quite hot, put in roast and sear; keep turning until seared all over, season and put into oven to roast. Keep a good hot fire.

Mrs. A. W. PARSONS, Bridgewater, Maine.

The care of an umbrella has much to do with its durability. When brought in from the rain, spread to dry if possible; if not, stand to dry with handle downward. Otherwise it is so slow drying that the cover rots and the frame rusts, especially about the top which causes the ribs to "poke" through.—Ed.

When rugs or Ingrain carpets get dirty, mix corn meal and gasoline together to form a paste, and press down into the nap of the rug well, letting it remain so for twenty-four hours, and then brush it all out and you will have a rug that looks like new.—Ed.

Note.—Remember that gasoline is very explosive and neither a lamp, fire of any kind or a match can be struck in the room while carpet is being cleaned.

Mrs. BESSIE ROBERTS, 176 Lupton St., Waterloo, Iowa.

A machine pin cushion is a very handy arrangement and easily made as follows: Cut a strip of felt about three inches wide, wind tightly about the arm of your machine twice and sew the end securely. Try it.—Ed.

Did the sisters ever try making a pillow top like this: Take a piece of all-over embroidery the size you want of some pretty design, and then embroider over it with silk of any color? I am working one in green and pink.

A pretty corset cover can be made in the same way.

Mrs. B. L. TALLMAN, Paso Robles, Cal.

To remove paint from window panes, rub hard for a few minutes with baking soda, then wash in clear water.

Would enjoy reading matter from the sisters.

Mrs. HENRY BURGER, Glasgow, Mont.

In using wool that has once been crocheted or knitted and unravelled out, make into skeins, dip into warm water, hang up and dry. It will look and work like new.—Ed.

When frying eggs, instead of dipping the fat over them, try putting cover on pan. When setting sponge over night in cold weather, if there is any danger of its getting cold put in a small amount of ginger—a little less than a teaspoon. It will not affect the flavor, but will keep it warm.

Mrs. R. E. O'BRIEN, 602 Breckenridge St., Lynch-

WORK FOR US

invention. LISTEN: One man's orders \$2850 one month—profit \$1650; Mere boy in Pa. made \$9.00 in 2½ hours. A. E. Martin, Mich., says: "Called at 20 homes, made 19 sales." G. W. Handy, N. Y., says: "Sold 131 in 2 days."

No Talking Necessary—it sells itself. Show—sales made. We want Agents, General Agents, Managers in every county. 150 percent profit. No investment required. Sample free with first order. Valuable booklet FREE. Write to-day.

U. S. MOPCO. 1449 Dorr St., TOLEDO, OHIO.

\$50 to \$75 EVERY WEEK

Experience not necessary. Honesty and willingness to work. We will give you an appointment worth \$5000 a year. You can be independent, always have money in abundance and pleasant position selling great labor saving

Think Of It

A Self-wringing mop. Two turns of the crank wrings out every drop of water. Mopping is now a pleasure.

Remedies

COLD ON LUNGS.—For a small child take a cloth large enough to cover lungs, spread thick with vaseline and then grate nutmeg thickly over the top. Lay next to body. I used this several times for croup and found it excellent.

UBES FOR ANKICA.—For inflammation of stomach, put two or three drops of ankica in a cup of water drinking at once. Anyone can put seven or eight drops in cup of water and drink part at once and the rest in a short time.

Ankica is also good for baby while cutting teeth if they have any fever. Put one or two drops in a glass of water, giving baby a teaspoon two or three times during the day. It is cooling and keeps down all inflammation.

Some say it is poison and others say not, but I have given it to my babies while cutting teeth if they seemed feverish and drank lots of water and it helps them. Of course it would not be best to give it too often.

Ankica is also good for sprains and bruises, used by applying and rubbing into the flesh. Any part of the body that is inflamed, rub plenty of ankica on, and see the good results. Try it sisters.

NEURALGIA.—Try wearing a nutmeg; it has helped me. Pierce a hole through nutmeg with a hatpin heated; run string through and tie around neck.

Mrs. GOLDIE BOFF, Manos, Colo.

JAUNDICE.—Extract of dandelion taken in doses of ten or fifteen drops in a little water three or four times a day will relieve jaundice.

Mrs. MARY WHALEN, Reed City, R. R. 2, Box 141, Mich.

BOILS.—Take the bark from the roots of the white sumac bush; scrape fine. Boil two minutes in sweet milk; water will do but milk is better. Thicken with wheat bran or corn meal to a soft poultice consistency. Spread on one half of a piece of clean white cloth, covering with the other half to keep poultice from skin. Use as hot as can be borne. When cold replace with hot poultice, or one can be used several times by heating over. This is excellent for boils, bruises and gatherings. It scatters and draws out soreness.

MISS CORA L. MATNEY, Elmer, Okla.

ECZEMA.—Take one teaspoon of epsom salts in a little water or orange juice every other morning for a week or two; then skip one or two weeks for eight weeks. Instead of using soap in bathing the affected parts, use oatmeal water, unless occasionally a good tar soap may be used.

BED WETTING.—Bathe the child's feet every night for three weeks or until cured, letting them dry off instead of rubbing with towel. Do not give medicine.

COUGH CURE.—Five cents' worth of pulverized wild cherry bark, five cents' worth of North Carolina tar and two pounds of brown sugar. Tie bark in cheese-cloth, put into one quart of cold water, set on stove, let come to boil and steep five minutes. Remove bark, add tar and sugar, boil until it syrups. When cold skim off the tar and bottle.

Dose.—Teaspoon after meals and at bedtime.

Mrs. EDWARD H. SCHNEIDER, Worsaw, Box 288, N. Y.

Requests

Mrs. Hattie Trotter, 206 Summit St., Lawton, Okla., letters from Colorado sisters, climate and employment.

Mrs. W. B. Libby, Libby, Mont., poems, "Over the Hills to the Poor House" and "Brier Rose."

Mrs. J. F. Durham, 515 Park St., High Point, N. C., invalid, with two children, shower.

Mrs. Clarke Sandels, Hurley, Ulster Co., N. Y., how to sew together or knit rug carpets.

Mrs. D. C. Tucker, Albemarle, R. R. 2, Box 90, N. C., shower on thirty-fourth birthday, Dec. 23.

Mrs. E. H. Kohl, Chester, Va., a shut-in, sixty years old; good reading and quilt pieces.

Miss Emma Pileless, Pocahontas, Cape Girardeau Co., Mo., lost mother and is lonely; shower in November.

Mrs. G. F. Burt, Seibert, Colo., a worm remedy for children.

Miss Willkie Watson, Graham, Box 215, Texas, (Invalid), handkerchief shower on birthday, Dec. 29.

Missing Relatives and Friends

We shall only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed: so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three 3-months 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two new 15-months 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent 15-months subscriptions yearly for every seven words.

Want to hear from Lewis Carter, last heard of 1902 Johnson City, Tenn. Write Mrs. J. B. Taylor, Linville Falls, N. C.

Would like to know the homes of my two little granddaughters, Lucy Pratt, aged eleven, and Mary Pratt, aged nine. Both taken from an orphan asylum in Kansas. Write to J. J. Parish, White Owl, S. Dak.

Wanted to hear from Thomas Helms or his family, last heard of at Okla.; write his niece, Nora Rose Studebaker, Sagle, Idaho.

Want to find my sister Lou and daughter, Duchie McIntyre, they left here with C. W. Jewers in '95. Valuable property here for them. Anyone knowing their whereabouts please write to Mrs. Sallie Long, Grove, La.

Information wanted of Mrs. Brewer or Bauer nee Leinweber, her eldest daughter's name is Bertha. Last heard from in 1886 in Baltimore, Md. Write her sister, Mrs. Wm. Warnstorff, Great Bend, R. R. 1, Pa.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free

Exchanging Souvenir Postal Cards is no longer a fad but a custom firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange List it is necessary to send a club of two fifteen months 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and fifty cents to pay for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Postal Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Mrs. Alfred N. Russell, 321 Chestnut St., Springfield, Mass., C. F. Wells, Perryopolis, Pa. W. E. Stagnor, Bloomsburg, Pa. Miss Myrtle B. Smith, Ogdensburg, State Hospital, N. Y. Mrs. Charles D. Trask, Uxbridge, Box 331, Mass. W. J. McClure, Hood River, E. R. 1, Oregon. Harvey A. Grafton, Leechburg, E. R. 3, Pa. Miss Frieda Koelkeritz, Morris, Minn. Benjamin Boldt, Plattville, E. R. 10, Wis.

Amateur Photographers, Look!

Go into business for yourself. Learn to transfer Kodak pictures onto cloth for Pillow Covers, etc. Sell at big profit. 25c. secures outfit and directions for using the marvelous process. Success guaranteed. NOVATON CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE.

FLOWER POST CARDS FREE—Five of our prettiest cards all different, beautiful rich colored! Forget-me-nots, Violets, Pansies, etc. Send 2c stamp for postage.

W. H. GATES, 503 Jackson St., Topeka, Kan.

AGENTS HANDKERCHIEFS, DRESS GOODS.

Carleton made \$8.00 one afternoon. Mrs. Bosworth \$25.00 in 2 days. \$10.00 FREE SAMPLES. Credit. Stamp brings particulars. FREEPOST MFG. CO., 60 Main St., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

AGENTS \$4500 A WEEK MENDETS

Mend all your... hot water bags, tin, copper,...

Collective Mfg. Co., Box 108 Amsterdam, N.Y.

AGENTS \$4 PER DAY

NEW PATENTED Useful COMBINATION SHEARS Sells to every Housewife.

Easy Seller

Just Out 15 Tools in ONE

Made of first quality steel, fully guaranteed. Sells in every home, store or shop. Practical, useful. Housewives won't be without it. A whirlwind seller. Big profits. Biggest, best, most wonderful agents' proposition made. Write quick for terms and free sample to workers. Send no money. A postal will do. Thomas Shear Co., 2130 Berry St., Dayton, Ohio

DON'T PAY TWO PRICES

Save \$18.00 to \$22.00 on

HOOSIER RANGES AND HEATERS

Why not get the best when you can buy them at such low prices? Hear of Factory Prices? THIRTY DAYS FREE TRIAL BEFORE YOU BUY. Our new improvements absolutely surpass anything ever produced. SEND POSTAL TODAY FOR OUR FREE CATALOG AND PRICES. HOOSIER STOVE FACTORY 265 State St. Marion, Ind.

FREE THIS ALADDIN LAMP FREE

BURNS KEROSENE—Cool Oil

Outshines city gas or electricity. Simple, noiseless, odorless, clean, safe, money-saving. Guaranteed. Write nearest agent for catalogue M and learn how to get an Aladdin Mantle Lamp FREE.

AGENTS T. M. BALL SOLD \$500 on money back guarantee, not one returned. Stacey sold 12 in one hour. Newsom sold 12 in 10 calls. Gibson sold 48 in 5 days. Sell itself. Needed in every home. Our Sunbeam Burner fits other lamps. Complete line for homes, stores, etc. Ask for our literature and proposition.

MANTLE LAMP CO. OF AMERICA, Dept. 142 P. Office at Chicago, Ill., Portland, Ore., Waterbury, Conn., Dallas, Tex., Winnipeg, Montreal, Canada

FREE FANCY WORK CATALOG

Largest, most complete and up-to-date ever published. Over 1500 illustrations. Shows our unequalled line of Eyelet, Tinted and Silk Embroidery Designs, Stamped Linens, Pillow Tops, Battenberg, Braids, Perforated Patterns and Stamping Outlets, Needlework Supplies. Also large assortment of "Ladies' Wear," Hemstitched Linens, Damask Table Cloths, Napkins, Towels, Handkerchiefs, Lace Curtains, Noelsies, etc. Don't miss this FREE offer and write a postal today asking for "Catalog M."

FRED HERRSCHNER, 6453 Marshfield Av. Chicago, Ill.

WATCH RING & FREE FOR SELLING POST CARDS

We need your FREE & BEST WIND-UP SET. BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED. Plated WATCH, equal in appearance to solid Gold Watch. American made, guaranteed 5 years, and a beautiful ring, for selling only 20 packages of beautiful high grade post cards at 10c a package. Order 20 packages, and when sold, send us \$2, and we will positively send you the Watch, WELLS MFG. CO., DEPT. 1216, CHICAGO.

AGENTS

Make \$30 per Wk. This AWL sews a lock stitch like a machine. Best thing ever made for repairing Harness, Shoes, etc. A dozen exclusive features. Demand is immense. Sales astounding. Roy Sage writes "Rec'd Awl today and sold 5 packages, and when sold, send us \$2, and we will positively send you the Watch, WELLS MFG. CO., DEPT. 1216, CHICAGO.

4 Christmas Gift Books FREE

Very dainty. Each booklet 8 pages, with greeting and verse of poetry. Covers gold embossed and tied with silk ribbon. Four books given free to all who send for 3 months' subscription to our big Household magazine. Address Household C. Book Co., Dept. 50, Topeka, Kan.

GRAY HAIR RESTORED

DUBOIS HAIR RESTORER for restoring Gray Hair to its Natural Color. Beauty and Softness. Prevents the Hair from falling out. Restores the hair to its natural color. Superior to the many advertised hair restorers. Price \$1.00 by mail. Address, OZARK HERB CO., 5515 Easton Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

ELECTRIC

Home Lighting Plants, Telephones, Belts, Books, Xmas Tree & Flash Lights, Railways. Big Catalog 3 cents. OHIO ELECTRIC WORKS, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

PLAYS

Large List. Dialogues, Speakers, and Books, Drills, Catalogue free. T. S. DESSON & CO., Dept. 3, Chicago, Ill.

Two Yard Long Silk Muslin Scarf FREE.

A dainty shoulder throw and head covering for Summer, or for evening wear the year round. For trimming Summer Hens there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is two yards long and 24 inches wide, with deep hemstitched edge, and we have them in white, black, light blue and light pink.

For every day use such a scarf is indispensable, for car or boat riding, pleasure or otherwise one or more of these scarves will be found useful. Being ready to wear, the saving of time in hemstitching is worth something to every woman, and the busy Mothers will find them so convenient for a quick method of trimming the children's hats.

In the cities the stores all show these scarves and everyone is wearing them. Usually retail for one dollar, while we give for only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. Address

COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

RUBY'S REWARD

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

little money to keep my mother from starving; and at last, as I have already told you, I met Mr. Carpenter and begged a nickel from him.

"He went home with me, and found that my mother was one whom he had loved before she left her native place, when she was Miss Martha Burton's heiress. There had been a quarrel, or misunderstanding, of some kind, and he went away in a passion. Of course, after he found us, our destitution was at an end, for he provided for our every want, giving my mother every luxury and delicacy which money could buy; and when at last all was over, and I was an orphan, he took me to his own home, and treated me like his own son as long as he lived."

"Bless the man for a noble deed!" ejaculated madam, with considerable emotion. Then she added: "But have you never tried to find your father's relatives?"

"No," Walter answered, flushing crimson. "I did beg my mother once, when we were so very poor, to write to them and ask them to give us a little help. But she would not."

"If they refused to recognize their own son because he married me," she said gently, but firmly—"if they did not care enough when I sent them word that he was dead, to come and take a last look at him, they would not surely heed my feeble cry for aid."

"I have thought," Walter resumed, after a thoughtful pause, "that she might, perhaps, have relented, and asked them to care for me after she was gone, if Mr. Carpenter had not come to our relief; but he promised that I never should want for any good thing, and I know that she did feel perfectly content about me. I have often wondered, though—"

"Well, what have you wondered?" madam asked, as he hesitated, and fell into a reverie. "When Uncle Ralph was dying," Walter said, arousing himself, "he called me to his bedside, and said there were some things that he wished to talk to me about. He said there was something that my mother wished him to tell me when I should come of age; but he broke off there, and remarked he wanted to settle about my future first, and then, before he could finish, that last shock seized him, and he never spoke again. I have often wondered what it was that my mother wanted him to tell me. It may have been something about my father's friends, or some message that my father may have wished her to give me when I should be old enough to understand it."

"Doubtless it was something of that nature; but does not your heart ever yearn after your own kindred?" Madame Howland asked, regarding him earnestly. "Again Walter colored vividly; he was very sensitive upon this point. "I have often wished that I had relatives—that I could know I belonged to someone who really cared for me because the same blood flowed in my veins; but—"

"Well?" "I could never thrust myself upon those people who were so kind to my father—who ignored and despised my mother simply because she was poor," he answered, proudly.

"My mother was a lady in every sense of the word," he continued, with some excitement. "She was as refined and cultured as—as you are, Madame Howland, and very beautiful. Her parents were at one time very wealthy, but misfortune deprived them of their property; while Miss Martha Burton moved in the best society, and she took the greatest pains to have my mother carefully educated."

"Have you a picture of your mother," madam asked.

"Yes, but not here. I shall be happy to show it to you some time. But, Madame Howland," Walter asked, earnestly, "don't you think it is a mean spirit that looks down upon and despises really worthy people because they do not happen to occupy a certain position?"

He looked up into his companion's grand face with questioning eyes as he asked her this, while there was a slight curl of scorn upon her fine lips, for he heartily despised the arrogance and purse-pride of which he had spoken.

He was startled by the effects of his words, for the woman had grown white to her lips, and actually gasped aloud at his question.

"Walter—Walter Richardson don't be too hard on an old woman; do not condemn me utterly. I would that I could answer your question in a way which should still make you respect and esteem me, but I cannot for—I have done it myself all my life."

"But, madam," Walter stammered, in confusion, and wondering to see her so agitated, "that cannot be possible! You are noble and good. You have been very kind to the poor and helpless, also to me, who am but a poor young man struggling hard to work my own way up in the world."

"Ah! But you forget how much I owe you for your kindness to me when I so sadly needed it," returned madam, touching her bandaged right arm with the other hand which she was just beginning to use a little.

"I suppose it is natural that you should appreciate a service like that," Walter answered, thoughtfully, "but you did not owe me anything; the freedom of your lovely home, the pleasure of your society, besides the many other favors which I have received from you, these have all been great kindnesses to me."

"I did—I do," cried the woman, in a broken voice, while she leaned forward and laid her hand upon the young man's arm, as if she owed you more than I can ever repay—more, I fear, than you will ever be willing to forgive me; for, Walter, I am your father's mother, and—your grandmother!"

CHAPTER XLII.

MADAME HOWLAND'S STORY.

"Impossible!" burst from Walter's lips, while he regarded his companion as if he thought she had suddenly lost her senses.

"I wish it had been impossible for me to have been so hard-hearted toward my own flesh and blood," returned Madame Howland, in trembling tones, as the tears streamed over her pale face. "It is too sadly true, however, and it would be but simple justice if you should turn with loathing from me, now that I have revealed myself to you. But listen, my boy, and let me tell you my story before you judge me. In my younger days I was a Baltimore Southerner, owning two or three plantations and many slaves, and I inherited from him the pride of birth and station."

"When I was eighteen years of age I married Egbert Richardson. He also was wealthy, and occupied a high position in society; and, brought up as we had been, I do not know as it is strange that we should both consider poverty and labor as things to be despised and shunned. We had been taught to gauge a person by his position and possessions, rather than to respect him for his intrinsic worth. We had one son, whom we named Walter, and you can, perhaps, imagine something of my astonishment and emotion when, on the morning of my accident, you told me that your name was Walter Richardson. Something in your face had attracted me from the first, and when you told me your name I knew what it was—you strongly resembled your father."

Walter remembered now that she had seemed a good deal agitated at the time, but he had attributed it to her sufferings rather than to any mental disturbance.

"Our son," madam continued, "was very bright and promising, and we gave him every advantage, and built our fondest hopes upon him. But before he reached his eighteenth year, his father died. Perhaps, if he had lived, I could never have found it in my heart to turn against him as I did later; but before he was twenty, I had accepted Major Howland, a distinguished gentle-

man, a graduate of West Point, and a native of my own state. He was an aristocrat in the strongest sense of the word, and could tolerate nothing of 'plebeianism,' as he termed everything that savored of labor or trade. He soon became very fond of my handsome son, showered innumerable favors upon him, and spared no expense or pains to make his education thorough and complete. You will perceive it was a great blow to our expectations when, after leaving college, Walter insisted upon perfecting himself in some profession, and declared his intention of going North for that purpose. We would have much preferred him to settle down as a 'gentleman' and assist his stepfather in the care of his large estate, which would have been his at my husband's death, not to mention my own valuable property. But he was resolute, and we finally consented, reasoning that it could do him no harm to see something of the world; so we settled a handsome income upon him, and he left us for New York City, where his tastes led him to take up mechanical engineering."

"All went well until he wrote us that he had met a beautiful girl whom he had learned to love, and asked us to be prepared to receive her as a daughter at no distant day. This news was like a thunderbolt to us both. We had never thought of such a contingency as his marrying a Northern girl—we had set our hopes upon the daughter of a United States Senator. She was not a beautiful girl, but her position was irreproachable, and the union would have been a most desirable one. Major Howland immediately instituted inquiries about Walter's intended bride, and found, to our grief and dismay, that he had already committed himself to a poor girl, who was a clerk in a store. The major was furiously angry at this discovery, and declared if Walter married her, he should never cross his threshold again."

Walter's lips opened, as if he would have spoken, while his eyes blazed and his whole face expressed the utmost scorn at this statement.

He checked himself, however, and madam resumed:

"You think that was very hard and unfeeling," she said, deprecatingly, "but remember that it was owing more to education than an unfeeling heart. I tried to temporize with my husband—tried to prevail upon him to go to New York and see this young girl—she might be so unfeeling as he imagined. But he would not, and forbade me to take any measures toward effecting a reconciliation, and I was forced to obey. Walter was warned of the consequences which would follow his marriage with one whom we believed would disgrace the family, and commanded to return immediately to us. In reply, he wrote a noble and manly letter, pleading his cause most eloquently, and inclosing a picture of his beautiful betrothed, which almost made me yearn to own her as a daughter. But the fair, sweet face had no influence upon my husband, except to make him more obstinate, and he finally said so much that my wife and I touched, and my heart hardened. Walter had also expressed some opinions regarding politics in his letter, and made Major Howland exceedingly angry. He had decidedly refused to come home while the country was so agitated, saying that if the worst came, his conscience would not allow him to take up arms against the Union, and it would thus be better for him to remain where he was. This was the last bitter drop. He was formally discarded, his income was stopped, and his name no longer mentioned in our house. War ensued, throwing the country into a state of turmoil, and I never heard from my son again. Major Howland put his affairs in order, settled the bulk of his fortune upon me, and saw me safely and comfortably provided for, and then gave himself, and what he had reserved of his property, to the cause of the South. I need not go into details, but he spent himself and his all in the struggle that ensued, and at the end of the war, came home only to die. After that I removed to Philadelphia, where I resided for several years, and then came to this suburban city, which has been my home ever since."

"Ah!" said Walter, looking up with a relieved expression, "that is the reason, probably, why you never received the news of my father's death. My mother must have addressed you at Baltimore."

Madame Howland smiled.

"Thank you, my boy, for inferring that I did not receive that news. You do not believe me quite so bad as I have appeared. But I never did get the letter. If I had I could not have ignored it. I must have gone to you. And once I did go to New York to search for my son, for my heart yearned for him after my husband's death. I began to feel that I had been cold and cruel, and I longed to be reconciled to my only child. I was willing even to receive his bride, in spite of her poverty and toil, for I knew that her presence would be comfort to me in my old age. I was rich. I could surround them with every luxury, and I resolved that I would atone for my former harshness and pride. But I could obtain no trace of either my son or his wife, and I feared, remembering the views that he had expressed regarding the Union, that he might have joined the Union army and perished in the war. But it seems from your account that he and your mother had died from overwork and exposure, and you had become the care of a stranger. I have led a lonely life since then, though I have tried to do some good with the wealth which I would so gladly have lavished upon my children. It has been no atonement, for there can be none for a mother who coldly discards the offspring that God has given her, though, for my son's sake, I have done what I could for others. But the moment you uttered your name in my presence I knew that you were my son's son."

Walter lifted grave, questioning eyes to his companion's face as she made this statement. She flushed slightly as she met his glance.

"You wonder," she said, reading his thought, "why I did not at once claim you as my grandson. I will frankly confess that something of my old pride of race revived, as the knowledge was forced upon me, and I dreaded to commit myself until I had tried your character. I wanted to be sure that you were worthy of my love and of the name you bear. This is why I have urged you to come here so much, why I have asked you questions, which, no doubt, you have thought were presuming from an entire stranger. But, my dear boy, I find you a true and noble man; one whom I can honor and feel proud to own as my grandson. If you allow me that privilege, I came very near revealing myself on the day of your arrest, and it was only by a mighty effort that I restrained myself. It was a great blow to me, even though you bore it so bravely and appeared so innocent. When Mr. Conant came to Chester, he called here and relieved my mind, asserting that he could trust you under any circumstances, and then I confided everything to him, under a promise of secrecy, and commissioned him to spare no expense for you, but see that you had the very best counsel retained for your trial."

"And now, my dear boy," the old lady said, in conclusion, as she laid her hand upon Walter's arm and leaned forward to look more closely into his face, "can you forgive all the injury and injustice toward your parents of which I have been guilty? I have suffered for it in the lonely years that I have spent in my desolate home, and I am now ready to make any sacrifice to atone for my sins. Will you try to forget all, Walter, and be to me in my old age what I know your father would have been—a kind and loving son, a staff and comfort?"

Her voice had grown husky and trembling; there were tears in her eyes and a wistful, appealing expression upon her aged face.

At first, during her recital, there had been a

Just Out—We Want to Send You Our



FALL and WINTER CATALOG

and Style Book. It will Save You Money

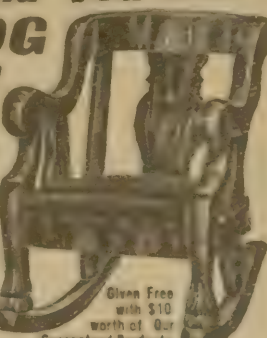
on Groceries, Clothing, Furniture, Shoes and Other Household Supplies

Contains 120 pages of money saving items. Write a postal for it today and see how you can cut our Guaranteed Groceries at less than store prices. For instance: Laundry Soap at 24¢ a bar; Baking Powder at 7¢ a can; Toilet Soap (3 bar box), 12¢; Starch in a box—everything at a big saving.

1500 Premiums Given

with orders for these Guaranteed Products. Thirty days' trial—no money in advance—money back if not satisfied. Write for our Catalog and learn how to furnish your home throughout without a cent of extra cost on our money saving Factory-to-Home Plan.

CROFTS & REED CO., Dept. C747, Chicago



ART MILLINERY CATALOG FREE



WRITE TO-DAY FOR OUR BIG FREE MILLINERY CATALOG, the great delineator of the world's choicest millinery styles for Fall and Winter. It presents in finest half-tones scores of rich, beautifully trimmed hats for women, and exquisite children, exact reproductions of famous Paris styles, especially designed for us by famous milliners, at a cost of \$20.00 to \$50.00 each. Our hats are bewitchingly chic and pretty, and distinctly stylish and possess the latest daily-wear, if you only visit to purchase a new hat. Our prices are less than half millinery prices. We are headquarters for OSTRICH FEATHERS, and foliage, and beautiful ready-to-wear hats, children's hats, and all millinery trimmings. Write for our millinery catalog to-day and see the new beautiful styles for Fall and Winter. In cost \$25.00 and with-out experience earn

65¢ up. French curl \$1.60 up; full line of imported flowers and MILLINERY Trimmings at

START A MILLINERY STORE

from \$15.00 to \$25.00 a week. Well instructed and advised free.

Write for Special Millinery Catalog containing full particulars.

JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 150-151 Madison Street CHICAGO



THE AMERICAN MESSENGER

(FOUNDED IN 1842)

AN ILLUSTRATED FAMILY RELIGIOUS MONTHLY

It has since been the favorite religious paper of hundreds of thousands of American Christian families. It brings each month a message of inspiration, comfort and good cheer. It is interdenominational, devoted to the upbuilding of a sturdy Christian character and the promotion of Christian living. It claims a foremost place among religious publications because of the superior literary merit of its contents and the strong helpful tone of all its articles. This paper stands for the highest Christian principles, and its supreme purpose is to encourage right living and high thinking wherever it goes.

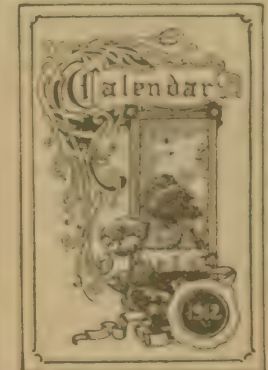
Original contributed articles, bright stories, beautiful poems, choice illustrations and regular departments of great value to all classes of readers are found in each issue.

Among its contributors may be mentioned: Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster, Rev. Dr. Francis E. Marsten, Rev. Dr. Warren C. Partridge, Rev. Dr. David James Burrell, Hope Darling, Rev. Edgar Whitaker, Wm. D. B. Rev. Judson Swift, D. D., John T. Faris, L. M. Montgomery, Clara B. Bonant, Katharine Eliza Chapman, Miss Z. I. Davis, Frank Walcott Hutt, Rev. Robert Stuart MacArthur, D. D., Rev. G. Ernest Merriam, Rev. George Shipman Parsons, D. D., Hilda Richmond, Rev. Charles A. S. Dwight, Ph. D., the author of "Prison Papers," Edgar L. Vincent, Howe Benning, Helen A. Hawley, Irma B. Matthews, Frank B. McMillan and many others.

As a special inducement we will send free to each new subscriber a copy in colors of the beautiful picture "The Good Shepherd," by the celebrated artist, B. P. Pichon. Size of picture 14½ x 20 inches.

Subscription price, 50 cents a year. Canadian subscriptions, 62 cents a year. Postage on foreign subscriptions, 24 cents additional.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY 150 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK CITY



Calendar FREE

This lovely new 4-page 1912 calendar with four beautiful cards sent for two-cent stamp to cover postage.

A. PORTER 167 Clinton St., Chicago Dept. 605

AGENTS EARN BIG MONEY EASY

\$20 to \$75 Weekly

Selling our Scientifically Formulated and Patented Shwan. Has been discovered with name, address, phone, home emblems, etc. Guaranteed against break or defect. They cut and hold an edge. Sell on sight. Write quick for literature.

Canton Cutlery Co., Dept. E. 1, Canton, O.

AGENTS—A GOLD MINE \$50 A WEEK SURE

Beautiful Scenery, Art, Religious, Home & Negro pictures complete in handsome paper mache frames ready to hang on wall. Only 12c. sell for 50c. to \$1. Many agents sell 100 in two days, profit \$40. You can do as well. 300 subjects. New ideas tremendous seller. Catalog free.

Peoples Portrait Co., Dept. M, 716 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

WE WILL GIVE These 4 RINGS

A Secret Method, Set with a very beautiful diamond, and a 3-carat chain. Guarantee that within 10 days of delivery we will give you \$40.00 worth of jewelry or \$10.00 cash. We have your address back all not sold. Address M. M. DALE MFG. CO., Providence, R. I.

\$3 a Day Sure

Send us your address and we will show you how to make \$3 a day absolutely sure. We furnish the work and teach you free, you work in the locality where you live. Send us your address and we will explain the business fully, remember we guarantee a clear profit of \$3 for every day's work, absolutely sure. Write at once. ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., Box 1679, Detroit, Mich.

Wanted—a man or woman to act as our information reporter. All or spare time. No experience necessary. \$50 to \$300 per month. Nothing to sell. Send stamp for particulars. SALES ASSOCIATION, 764 Association Building, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

This Great Book Free

If you would at once read full and complete story, "Ruby's Reward" we are prepared to supply it in book form in a splendid edition in colored paper binding. This offer enables you to read the entire story without waiting for the monthly installments to appear, besides furnishing another book for your library or reading table. Send only one new 15-months 25-cent subscription to COMFORT (your own won't count) and receive "Ruby's Reward" post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



HOME DRESSMAKING HINTS

Winter Fashions

By Geneva Gladding

NO. 4234.—Ladies' Waist, adaptable to any material and combined with skirt model No. 4214 would be a smart costume for general wear. Cut in sizes 32 to 42 inches bust measure; size 36 requires three and one quarter yards of 27-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4207.—Ladies' Waist. Dotted net combined with venise lace, is pretty for this waist design, or silk with any pretty pattern of all-over lace would make up attractively. Such a waist would have many uses. Cut in sizes 32 to 42 inches bust measure; size 36 requires one and one half yard of 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4052.—Ladies' Embroidered Waist. Cut in sizes 32 to 42 bust; size 36 requires one and one half yard 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

New and very attractive is this embroidery design, No. 11222. Transfer pattern, 10 cents.

No. 3779.—Ladies' Corset Cover, suitable for embroidered flouncing. It is cut with under-arm and center-back seam, and without shoulder seam. Very simple to make and perfect fitting. It may be finished with or without peplum. Cut in sizes 32 to 44 inches bust measure; size 36 requires two yards of embroidery 15 inches deep, with three eighths yard 27-inch material for peplum. Price, 10 cents.

No. 3875.—Ladies' Costume. The smart lines of this blue serge dress give it excellent style, unrelieved by any trimming except the lace collar and cuffs, and these are equally effective made of satin either in black or to match costume. It has no lining. A narrow, plaited section inserted at the center of the skirt in front is another good feature, and the closing at the left extends to the top of this section. The back gore of this five-gored skirt may be stitched on the edges as far down as desired, the other two seams being at each side. Three yards is the width at lower edge. Cut in sizes 32 to 40 inches bust measure, size 36 requires four and one half yards of 44-inch material. Very attractive wash frocks can be made this way. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4075.—Ladies' Costume without lining, having one-piece sleeves (with or without slash) and attached three-piece skirt with high waist line and in regulation or shorter length. Closing in front. Width around lower edge about two and one half yards. The braiding is used around neck (Dutch or high) with medallion, around armhole and bottom of sleeves, and the entire length of front. Woolen material with soutache braid made this model. Cut in sizes 32 to 40 bust; size 36 requires four and three eighths yards of 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

Braiding design, No. 11630, price 20 cents.

No. 4093.—Ladies' Six-Gored Skirt, closing to the left of center-front and in regulation or shorter length. A double box plait trims the center-front and back. Width around lower edge about two and three quarters yards. Cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure; size 26 requires two and five eighths yards 54-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4214.—Ladies' Two-Piece Skirt with an applied founce and back gore hanging free. Two and a fourth yards is the skirt width and the closing is at the left of the center-back. Satin, wool, silk and wool poplin, surah silk and taffeta are appropriate for the design. Cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4126.—Ladies' Six-Gored Skirt, having inverted plait at each seam at founce depth. Closing to left of center-back. Width around lower edge about two and three eighths yards. Cut in sizes 22 to 30 waist; size 26 requires three and three eighths yards 54-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 3737.—Ladies' Wrapper or Bath Robe, having long or short sleeves and rolling collar. Cut in sizes 32 to 44 inches bust measure; size 36 requires five and one quarter yards 36-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 3934.—Ladies' Sack Night Gown, with perforation for yoke facing square neck and short sleeves. May be made in either of two lengths. Cut in sizes 32 to 44 bust; size 36 requires five and three quarters yards of 36-inch material for long gown and three and one quarter yards same width for short gown. Price, 15 cents.

No. 3661.—Ladies' Eight-Gored Skirt, having lapped seams, closing to the left of center-back. Width around lower edge about two and five eighths yards. Cut in sizes 22 to 32 waist measure; size 26 requires four yards 40-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4219.—Misses' Costume. Brown serge with trimming pieces of a darker shade in satin, piped with crimson produced a smart and girlish costume like this design. The sleeves are in one with the unlined body, tucks on the shoulders relieving the plain lines, and the round yoke is adjustable. Waist and six-gored skirt are joined. Cut in sizes 14, 16 and 18 years; size 16 requires three and one half yards of 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4154.—Misses' Costume. This design is very useful for the young Miss, adaptable to all materials and becoming. The straight, side-plaited skirt is attached to the body and closes at the back. Cut in sizes 14, 16 and 18 years; size 16 requires five yards of 40-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4120.—This design is extremely pretty for a party gown, and very dainty and becoming made from figured challis, crepe or voile. Three tucks over each shoulder and a little fullness across the front give it the right lines for the girlish figure. Clusters of tucks about the top confine the fullness, and a deep hem knee length trims the three-piece skirt which is attached to the waist. A soft girde of satin taffeta completes this costume. Cut in sizes 14, 16 and 18 years; size 16 requires three and three quarters yards 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 3732.—A smart, practical costume is made for the Miss from this design. The closing of the waist is cut in tabs which may be piped and buttoned together over a fancy front. A deep sailor collar is trimmed with a band to match cuffs, while a bow with long flat loops completes the waist. The skirt is cut in six gores, with plaits front and back, closing to the left of center front under plait. Cut in sizes 14, 16 and 18 years; size 16 requires seven and one half yards 27-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4066.—Misses' Coat. Double-faced tan polo cloth with a plaid inner side that can be rolled back for collar and cuffs is excellent for a long coat and greatly simplifies the making. This model includes an adjustable sailor collar, which is very broad, thus affording additional protection. Double-faced serge, coating material and steamer rugs are adaptable for this design. Cut in sizes 14, 16 and 18 years, size 16 requires three and one quarter yards of 54-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4202.—A very practical school dress or one for general wear made from serge illustrates the good features of this design. The collar, sleeve bands, belt and front of the waist were piped with satin, the latter simulating a front closing, though the closing is at the back. No lining is used, and the straight skirt is joined to the belt. Blue cashmere, challis and substantial wash fabrics are adaptable for it. Cut in sizes six to 12 years; size eight requires two and one half yards of 40-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4025.—Another attractive Child's Dress is shown in this design. The waist has a plait over each shoulder, and a fancy yoke is stitched to the waist and the tab in front has two buttons at each side. Cuffs and belt may match yoke. Cut in sizes two to 10 years; size six requires two and three quarters yards 40-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 4224.—Child's Apron. This dressy little apron is very simple and as attractive as a dress. In this pattern the sleeves are one with the body, both being sufficiently roomy to permit absolute freedom of movement. The apron fastens at the back, and there is a plait at each side of the front and back. Cut in sizes four to 10 years; size eight requires two and one quarter yards of 27-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 4060.—Another apron that is a favorite with mothers, has closing under the arms and a single strap across back. Sizes two to eight years; size four requires one and three eighths yard 36-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 3979.—Child's Dress with body and sleeve-caps in one piece. Closing at center-back. A box plait extends over each shoulder front and

back, being stitched about two thirds the way down, as well as an inverted plait. If long sleeves and collar are desired, a plain guimpe with collar and sleeve could be worn.

No. 4182.—Full-length panels in the back and front are good features of this little dress. Old-rose cashmere with a figured design in same material for neck band, cuffs and belt would be very attractive. Sleeves and body are in one, and the dress closes in the back. The skirt is circular and is slightly gathered. Cut in sizes six to 12 years; size eight requires three and five eighths yards of 36-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 3729.—For girls of this age the straight dress is always up-to-date in appearance, easily made and becoming. This one has long sleeves, sailor collar, and worn with patent leather belt and square or four-in-hand sash tie. The shield is separate and may be worn with or without standing collar. Cut in sizes four to 12 years; size eight requires three and one quarter yards 36-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

No. 2986.—Child's Dress having long or puff sleeves with fullness confined to front and back of neck by shirings. Narrow lace trims neck and sleeves. A most useful dress, and its simplicity makes it appropriate for the little tots.

Special Offers.

Solicit and send one new 15-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one pattern free. A club of two 15-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each secures three patterns. These must be bona-fide subscriptions, not your own nor renewals. The cash price of each pattern is given with the description. Order by number and state plainly size or age.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Take Your Choice of these 32 Special Books

Let us show you free of all cost or obligation exactly how you can save money on everything you buy to eat or wear or use in any way.

Here are a number of the special books we issue. In the entire list there may be but one or two or three that will interest you at this time. But by all means get that book or books in which you are interested.

You owe it to yourself, to your family to at least investigate this big opportunity for saving.

Check Over the List Now

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Paints | 17 Baby Carriages |
| 2 Planes | 18 Men's Fur Coats |
| 3 Organs | 19 Sewing Machines |
| 4 Trunks | 20 Gasoline Engines |
| 5 Roofing | 21 Cream Separators |
| 6 Vehicles | 22 Building Materials |
| 7 Furniture | 23 Stoves and Ranges |
| 8 Incubators | 24 Underwear Samples |
| 9 Wall Paper | 25 Automobile Supplies |
| 10 Typewriters | 26 Bicycles—Motorcycles |
| 11 Grocery List | 27 Baby's Dress and Toilets |
| 12 Food Cookers | 28 Women's Tailored Suits |
| 13 Tank Heaters | 29 Women's Fashion Book |
| 14 Wire Fencing | 30 Raincoats—Macintoshes |
| 15 Carpets, Rugs | 31 Men's Clothing |
| 16 Building Plans | 32 Women's Furs |

Send To-Day: Each of these books is nicely illustrated. The illustrations are true to life. The descriptions are absolutely accurate, and behind every article there is an unconditional guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded. The titles of these various books tell you the nature of the contents. Pick out the book or books that interest you, write their number in the coupon below and mail to us to-day.

Sign and Mail Coupon NOW!

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO. 151

19th and Campbell Streets Chicago Avenue Bridge
KANSAS CITY CHICAGO

Please send to my address below books Nos. absolutely free of cost.

Name

Post Office

State

Send coupon to the address nearest you

CALIF. HONEY

Freight prepaid direct from our Calif. Apiaries to your home on approval. Inspect and pay if satisfactory. 3 grades rich, thick, well ripened, and fine flavor, 10, 11, 12 cents per lb. Large sample that will convince you of its quality, 10 cents. List honey, fruits, nuts, etc., free. Big money for agents.

SPENCER APIARIES CO., Box 127, Nordhoff, Cal.

OLD COINS WANTED \$7.75 paid for rare 1853 quarter; \$20. for half dollar. Keep money dated before 1890, and send 10c. for new Coin Value Book. May mean a fortune. A. F. KRAUS, 425 CHESTNUT ST., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Cut in sizes one half to six years; size four requires two yards of 36-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 3964.—Romper suits have attained an important place in the child's outfit for winter as well as summer. Bloomers and waist are one, held in by the attached belt and are attached to the slightly round yoke. Cut in sizes two to six years; size four requires two and one half yards of 36-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 11305.—Dolly Design, 11½ by 11½ inches, to be worked in solid embroidery. Buttonholed edge. Transfer pattern, 10 cents.

No. 11196.—Handbag to be developed in eyelet and solid embroidery. Edges buttonholed. May be made in white, black cloth or silk, or in color to match gown. A very convenient bag to carry on wrist or wear at belt. Perforated stamping pattern seven and three quarters by seven inches, including stamping preparation, 10 cents. Transfer pattern, 10 cents.

No. 6.—Sewing bag for solid embroidery or stenciling. Also useful for other purposes. Perforated stamping pattern, two and one half by six inches including stamping preparation, 15 cents. Transfer pattern, 10 cents.

No. 11639.—An attractive design for pillow top, ends of bureau, sideboard or table cover. When used on pillow cover, the pillow may be made oblong, 14 by 22 inches, or the design stamped on the lower half of a square one, 22 by 22 inches. Light colored linen (gray, tan, cream or white) toweling or cool material of a good color should be used for this pillow. Three-inch band of light-green linen may be couched on the background. The daisies were embroidered in natural colors. Linen, toweling or Indian head cotton make covers that launder well. Perforated stamping pattern including stamping preparation, 25 cents. Transfer pattern, 15 cents.

No. 11640.—Design for pillow top, 22 by 22 inches. Gray linen was used for this particular model, though cotton goods would also be attractive. The flowers were outlined in white and the leaves and stems in a light shade of green. To make the cross-bar effect in the center, either baste a piece of net to the foundation, couching the edges, and applique the flowers and leaves on, or cross strands of embroidery silk, fastening them where they cross. Perforated stamping pattern, including stamping preparation, 25 cents. Transfer pattern, 15 cents.

Questions Answered

FURS.—Mrs. T. B. A., your old muff and collar will work over into a set of combination fur and cloth which is so fashionable this season. As your fur is brown, make it to brown velvet, satin, or heavy taffeta. Take the best of your muff and make into bands, using them either on the edges, or alternating with bands of the brown material. Should you use the fur only on the edges, the material may be used plain, in box plaits or shirings. A ruffle about two inches wide at the ends is attractive. Equally pretty for the neckpiece is a strip of the fur about four inches wide edged all around with a ruffle to match muff. This is worn by simply tying once, letting one end hang over the other. Or it may have a center of brown material, edged with a band of the fur, brought together at the throat and fastened with a bow or rosette of same.

USEFUL BAGS.—Miss SADIE EMERSON, bags to hold articles that a few years ago kept bureau and machine drawers, work baskets and closets in disorder have become a necessity. I cannot think of a more useful wedding gift to your girl friend than several of these bags. I would suggest one for undrained stockings equipped with black, white and tan darning cotton and a paper of needles. Neither would a darning ball come amiss.

No. 6 illustrates a pretty sewing bag which may be made from cotton or silk, and equipped with emery, needles, small scissors in case, thimble and tape measure.

A good strong laundry bag made from denim or plain cretonne would be greatly appreciated. Write in good plain letters the word "Laundry," or the full name, outline and draw up top with double strings of heavy cotton cord.

No. 11196 made from white linen and embroidered in white would also make a beautiful gift to be used as a handkerchief bag.

TO PRESS A GARMENT.—C. D. L., if you desire to turn out a garment that looks finished, begin by cutting from perfectly smooth material and pressing seams, hems and edges as you sew them. This can never be so successfully done after a garment is completed. All materials with the exception of silk which should be very lightly pressed if at all, are improved with pressing. In pressing seams, use a board over which only two or three thicknesses of cloth have been drawn for best results. Open seams, and if of wool, very slightly moisten and use a moderately hot iron. If any gloss or marks appear on the right side, dampen a white cotton cloth, spread over part, go over lightly with iron, never letting its full weight rest on cloth. The cloth will steam which removes marks. The same process applies to hems.



Talks with Girls

Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

THE last month of the year, dears, and do what we can to stop it, time goes right along, bringing the last month of the year around to us so often that we sometimes almost wish that there were more than three score and ten years in our allotted portion. However, that is plenty I suppose, because if we use seventy years as we should we will have done enough good to earn for us the long life that comes after time is so more. Anyway this is the last month of 1911 and the work isn't done yet, so I must stop talking and begin on what is better.

The first letter to hand from the pile on my desk is from Cousin Azalea of Santa Cruz, Cal., who though only fifteen is deeply in love with a young man with a bad past, but who promises to be good hereafter, and she wants to know if she is doing right to stick by him in spite of the opposition of all her friends, except her mother. She is doing perfectly right if she will continue to stick by him till she is twenty-one and he has been worthy that long of her devotion to him. Otherwise she will be sorry after she is twenty-one that she hadn't better sense before.

Two Blue Eyes, Hamden, N. Y.—Well, I declare, Cousin, if you haven't more patience in a minute than I would have in a year, if I had a father like yours who lets his women folks work as hard as you and your mother have to do and then doesn't knock the man down who talks about you. That much for your father. He ought to be ashamed of himself. As for you and the young man who have been helping on the farm, you pick out John and have the kind of talk with him you say you want to have. He'll no doubt try to get out of his part in it some way, but you hold him right up and make him tell you the whole truth. Don't lose your temper, but talk to him straight out and simply make him see he must be fair with you. Also have a straight talk with your father and mother, and insist that they let you have your young friends come to the house and give you some chance to enjoy your youth, in the proper way, or you will leave home and make your own way. Goodness knows, you couldn't get any position where you would have to work any harder or more disagreeably than you do now.

Broken-hearted Sue, Butte, Mont.—Of course, the young man to whom you are engaged can't help what his people do, even though it is not respectable, but if you married him you would become part of his family and if you were respectable you would find that married life would not be all bliss. Too many young people, with fairy-story notions of marriage, don't look far enough ahead when they get into it and find that it is a practical situation, they wish they were out of it, and sometimes that wish grows into very, very serious trouble. I think, my dear, you should listen very carefully to what your parents have to say on the subject.

Pis Face, Miller, S. Dak.—Bear with your unkind mother, my dear, until you are old enough to go away from home for yourself, and then tell her good by. Maybe when she realizes that she is driving you from home, she will be kinder. A girl is of age at twenty-one in South Dakota. I fancy you have education enough to become a clerk in any kind of store. If you have a cheerful disposition and a pleasant manner of meeting customers it is worth more to you than a fine education. Of course you must be industrious and quick to learn everything about the business.

J. A. E., Three Cross, Ill.—Don't worry about the quarrel. It is the way all of the silly young sweethearts do, and you'll both be good friends again—probably are by this time. Besides he is too young for you and you should get a full-grown, sensible man. I wonder how people get along at all when they marry, knowing how they quarrel and are ugly tempered before they marry and can quit each other if they want to. I'm glad most of the time that I am an old maid.

Troubled, Anxious and Worried, Randall, Ill.—Now, look here, you three girls none under seventeen, each of you says you are "fond of a young man which" is this or that or the other, and whenever a girl writes like that I have no advice to give her except to stop thinking of beaux and go to thinking about the rules of grammar. You need to think hard, too.

Wild Rose, Hoboken, N. J.—I don't know the customs in Hoboken, N. J., my dear, but if the young man is right in what he tells you other girls there do and you should do the same. I think you had better move away from Hoboken, or get married before spring. Is the young man worth anything else than the eighty thousand dollars in his own right?

Troubled and Unhappy, Duncan, Okla.—Never think a young man loves you unless he tells you so. Then you may think he does, but he must do more than that to make you know he does. He must tell you, "Unhappy when you can't tell which of two you love, you don't love either. Love is no doubtful thing."

Troubled, Springfield, Mo.—Don't keep him as a friend if he wants to break his promise to marry you. He is neither a friend nor a sweetheart, and as a husband he would be a lifelong unhappiness. Send him away.

Gertrude, Springfield, Mass.—A step-second cousin is scarcely a relative at all, and surely not too close to marry, if he is all right otherwise.

Doubtful, Racine, Mo.—If you love each other and he is as good as you say he is, the fact that you are only twenty-one is not forty-six years old, prevent your marriage. E. S. But, listen, you should know more about his financial prospects than to spell it "phynancial," don't you think?

Doubtful, Briscoe, N. C.—Of course, a girl may meet one of her gentlemen friends at the depot when he comes to see her. But you shouldn't say "gentleman friend" nor "deputy" if you want to be real swagger. (2) And you may ask a young man to come in after a walk or a drive, if it is not too late in the evening. (3) You are quite right to have no fear of being an old maid when you are only nineteen. Treat the men nicely, but don't marry one until after you are twenty-one.

Brown Eyes, Davenport, Ia.—A girl of eighteen should know all the nice men she can, and her father should know them, too. It is the only way he can help her to have the right kind of acquaintances and get the right kind of a husband. Fathers are too often careless about these things.

Two Girls, Pilot Knob, Mo.—Girls of fifteen are too young for beaux and you let the other girls tease you all they please because you haven't any. They are the silly ones.

A Mother, Madison, Pa.—If all the mothers, my dear, were as careful of their daughters and their sons as you are, and as sensible and companionable with them and their young friends, there would be fewer wrecked lives, fewer broken hearts, fewer tears, God bless the kind of mother you are and give the children more of them.

Myrtle, Whitewater, Wis.—A girl of twenty-one has no right to marry a boy of nineteen. She should have the sense he lacks. You tell Bob to wait till he is a man, and while he waits do you accept the attention of the young man of twenty-five who likes you and you like. Goodness knows, twenty-five is young enough.

Happy Heart, Knob Lick, Mo.—Why is it necessary for you to break your engagement in order to remain in school until you graduate at high and in book-keeping? You are foolish to have become engaged at sixteen and in school, but since you have, you need not break it. If the man will not wait until you are twenty-one he is not the kind of man for a good husband.

Comfort Friend, Mound Valley, Kans.—You are all right about not wanting to marry into debt and the year you wait till you are financially fixed will be all to the good. The young man seems to be all right, too, and you have my very best wishes. I predict a happy married life for you both.

Country Lass, Boyle, Ark.—The only real and sure way to get rid of a persistent young man is to have some other man fall in love with you and let him settle it. You can't drive the other one away with a club, if you try to do it without help.

In Doubt, Tempe, Okla.—The young man has no right to be "sore" because you misunderstood him, but it would do no harm to write him a little note of friendly explanation.

Dinah Sniff, Denver, Colo.—It seems to me if I were engaged to a young man who went with another girl and told me he didn't care for her except to bug and kiss her that there would be an engagement broken very suddenly and beyond repair. Your own self respect should cause you to have nothing to do with such a man.

Blue Eyes, Dudley, La.—Really, my dear, for a girl to have been plowing every season, six days a week for six years is record enough of home industry for any girl to marry on, and work a while for her husband. I'd like it a little better if he were a year older than a year younger than you are, but a little difference like that isn't any difference and with the one you love best you ought to be happy. I wish you all good luck, and no more plowing.

Luk, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Read what I have said above to Cousin Brown Eyes of Davenport. Girls having young men friends and if your parents object, have them anyhow, but be sure to have only such as will be worthy. At seventeen you have time to choose and if you are careful to have fewer and better than many and worse, I think the old folks will come to think their youngest is plenty old enough to be a nice and sensible girl.

Hesitant, Dry Ridge, Ky.—No wonder you are not much of a talker. My goodness, when a girl writes a forty-page letter as yours was, she has no time to talk. As I read your story I thought you didn't care very much for anybody, and when after about thirty pages I came to your query "which one shall I choose?" I knew you didn't. You had better teach school than marry either of the men you told me about. The one nearest you are always bickering with, and snapping at and being jealous of and if you think that a girl with such a disposition can be happy married to the man she snaps at you are greatly and seriously mistaken. My advice to you is to stop thinking about love and act it. Be sensible. Let your love prompt you to be kind and gentle and charitable, and let your sense prompt you to choose a man who can appreciate those qualities.

Southern Girl, Charleston, S. C.—My dear cousin, don't you know that the sweetheart to whom it is "death to see you accept attentions from any other men," will become a jealous husband whom it is unhappiness itself to live with? And don't you know that the man who threatens to go to the end if you do not marry him is already bad in lack of character? And do you think the woman who asks whether she should marry the man she loves or the rich one whom to marry would be life-long misery, should marry at all? If you will take my advice, which you probably will not, you will remain as you are. You can't be any more miserable that way than you would be if you married.

Brown Eyes, Eminence, Ky.—He should not have written such a letter to you even in fun because it is very liable to cause trouble. Say nothing about it, to anyone else, but tell him he must not write another unless he wishes to lose your friendship. If he persists then you may tell his brother. I'm glad to know you are so happy and I don't want to have it disturbed.

Billie, Bucklin, Mo.—My sakes, Billie, how could you "just give up and do without a beau?" But "beaux," Billie, is plural and you ought to know the difference between a plural beau and a singular before getting in all this trouble about one? You take another term in school and listen to the advice of your family.

Vivian and Ruth, Everest, N. Dak.—I think you had better let him go, seeing the doubt you have and the truth of some of the stories you have heard. It will all be worse if you marry. (2) You are jealous and he is jealous and quarrel over it as sweethearts. Do you think marrying would improve matters any? If you do, try it and find out.

Pining, Iona, Ida.—It is a shame and a pity that your life at home is made so hard for you, and I think you would be justified in marrying the young fellow who is all right and loves you. Anyway don't marry the old man you do not love, no matter what your father says. You can at least prevent making your whole life a misery.

Ursula, Olney, Ill.—Unless you are engaged to the young man he has no right to say what your attentions shall be to any other man and if you want to write to a dozen you may do so with perfect propriety and honesty. If he is the kind who says he will not go with a girl who writes to another fellow, you tell him you are the kind who writes to another fellow and that he is under no obligations to go with you. That kind of a young man always makes me exceedingly weary, and the girl who will permit it makes me wearier.

Blue Eyes, Washington, D. C.—You see you have disobeyed your mother once and have already got into trouble. Now let the young man go since he disappointed you so and listen to what your mother says. She is treating you very well and you will be bad if you don't mind her. A girl's best friend is her mother.

Gentle Jane, Justin, Texas.—My, but you are the silly one. Why do you hesitate between a good, decent, well-to-do man who loves you and whom you like, and a worthless fellow you think you love and who doesn't care enough for you to correct any of his bad habits for your sake? You don't really deserve a good husband.

Anno, West Plains, Mo.—Well, for a seventeen-year-old girl in the "eight grade," you do spell something dreadful and your grammar isn't any better. Still you say you have never thought of the boys and have never been kissed. I am glad to hear that, but I do wish you hadn't written me ten pages about the boys and written it so badly. You are a nice girl, dear, but you must learn to spell and to write correctly. Ask your mother the questions you think I can answer better. I can't.

Broken-hearted Girl, New Haven, Conn.—Don't be despondent. When he gets well he will answer your letter. In the meantime you might write another to him to let him know you remember him in his illness. If he cares very much for you he will not forget.

Sybil, Brady, Texas.—Ces est jolli usse tableau, may be Texas French, but is not Parisian. C'est un jolli tableau, which is as near as I can guess at what you want, means "This is a pretty picture." Haven't you any teachers of French in Brady? As to the young man, I think he is merely a sincere friend of the girls. In any event, that is the way he should think. Ne pensez vous pas ainsi, vous-meme?

There, dears, all your questions are answered, and I haven't scolded at all, hardly. And there beginning a new year when we meet again, and let us come together with the one big resolution that we will keep all the resolutions we make for 1912. May the good Lord watch over us all. By, by, for 1911. COUSIN MARION.

In Wolf's Clothing

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

Sir Joseph shot a sharp glance at the unnaturally white face.

"I'll see to that. All right at the office?"

"Quite, sir, quite. I keep my eye on everything—everything."

"Well, you'd better be getting back. There's time to catch the night train. I don't want you to be seen at the Hall."

"Quite so, sir. The ladies and gentlemen might think something had happened."

"Something happened? What do you mean, you fool?"

"Nothing, sir—I only meant—"

"Oh, go and be hanged! Get something to eat at the inn near the station." He flung him half a crown, as a man throws a bone to a dog.

I shall be up at the office presently, and may drop in at any moment. Understand? Now be off."

Striple picked up the half crown and went meekly down the path. When he had turned the corner his air of servile humility gave place to one of cunning and deep reflection.

"Both the letters were sealed," he murmured to himself. "Annoying, very! But that one from Gilly and Roberts contained good news—I could see that by his face. He sent them some ore to assay, and the report was favorable. Now, what was it? Copper, tin, or coal? And where was the sample from? And the letter from Australia—what was that I wonder? It comes regularly, and always sealed and kept secret."

From the open door of Eliot's cottage, which

Woman's Beauty

painted by nature is the ideal beauty—it is what the artists try to copy and what users of rouge and cosmetics try to match.

There is no real beauty without health—neither is there real comfort or happiness.

It is woman's happiness to look well and feel well—and every woman in good health has

The World's Greatest Charm

Impure skin, pimples, a muddy complexion, lustreless eyes and the many evidences of an impaired system can only be corrected by taking the necessary tonic.

By using Beecham's Pills the cause will be removed and the effects will soon be gone—vitality will soon be restored, the step regain its elasticity and the eyes will beam again with that same health which gives the countenance and complexion its best charm. The tint that tells of health will be

MADE POSSIBLE BY USING

BEECHAM'S PILLS

The circular with each box contains special directions for women.

Sold everywhere in boxes, 10c, and 25c; If your dealer should not have them, send price to Thomas Beecham, 365 Canal St., N. Y.

he was approaching came a tempting smell of roast meat. He drew nearer, as if drawn by the delicious perfume, and Eliot turned his head and saw him.

"I beg your pardon," said Striple in his peculiar voice. "I happened to be passing and—just looked in."

"That's all right," said Eliot, rising. "Won't you come in?"

Striple went in and at Eliot's request, joined him at his evening meal. He ate as one famished and, at the end of the meal led Eliot on to talk of himself. When Eliot mentioned having been born in Australia his interest quickened.

"Wonderful country Australia—great fortunes made there," said Eliot.

"And lost," said Eliot.

"Quite so. So you preferred old England to Australia?"

"Beggars cannot be choosers," said Eliot. "I came to England because I had to."

"And so you happened on Sir Joseph just by chance. Strangely convenient, Providence, sometimes."

"Scarcely by chance," said Eliot. "I knew Sir Joseph or rather, he knew me. He stopped, for he suddenly remembered that the fact of his relationship to Sir Joseph was not to be known."

"Have some more ale?"

"Thank you kindly," responded Striple, upon whom the sudden hesitation and change of subject had not been lost. "Beautiful ale! Brewed in this vicinity? Are these parts famous for anything in particular? Have you any mines about—copper, tin, and such like?"

"There are some copper mines," said Eliot, carelessly, "but they have gone out of working lately."

"Dear me," said Mr. Striple, his large red ears pricking up, "how very interesting! Copper has gone up in price lately, enormously. Very interesting, indeed."

"I'm glad you find it so," said Eliot with a laugh. "Are you particularly interested in copper?"

"Me?" replied Striple with a little start. "O dear no—not at all! I am afraid I must be going. I'm glad to have made your acquaintance, Mr. Graham, and I am very grateful to you for your hospitality to a perfect stranger."

He walked to the door and, looking round him, said:

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Beautiful country—charming! Is all this Sir Joseph's land?"

"As far as that belt, of trees—beyond that is the Ryalls'."

"The Ryalls? Quite so, quite so. Good by sir, and thank you very much."

He walked along the road which led to the station, deep in thought. Suddenly he smote his leg with his huge hand, and muttered:

"I've got it! Graham! That's the name of the man who came from Australia to see Sir Joseph years ago. I remember him well, and this young fellow is like him—he must be his son. And he's working for Sir Joseph! Now what does it mean, I wonder? And Sir Joseph has a letter from Australia every month, which he doesn't want anyone to see. And there are copper mines here. Sir Joseph's a deep one! It's a stupid habit that of sealing letters!"

AGENTS \$28 a Week

Do not delay. Write at once for terms and free outfit of Guaranteed Hosiery for men, women and children. All styles and grades. Guaranteed 4 months or replaced with new pair. Best proposition ever made. Big seller, fine profits, good repeater. Get busy and write today. Do not miss this big chance. Send no money—a postal will do.

THOMAS HOSIERY CO.
1330 BARNY ST., DAYTON, O.

WATCH, RING GIVEN AND CHAIN

For selling diamonds and needles. We positively give a genuine American Stem Wind and Set Watch, beautifully designed case, warranted time-keeper, 6-Year guarantee, Sparkling Set or Plain Ring, all for selling 50 Silver-Albumen. Thimbles at 10c each. Paper of Gold-Eye Needles Free with each Thimble. Easy to sell. Write for terms. When sold return the 12 and we will send the watch and ring. LOWEST PRICES. AGENTS WANTED. HOME SUPPLY CO., Dept. 212 Chicago, Ill.

THIS NEW HAIR BRUSH COMBS AND BRUSHES

THE HAIR AND MASSAGES THE SCALP.

The greatest modern invention for keeping the hair beautiful and fluffy and the scalp clean, healthy and free from dandruff or dirt. Keep the scalp clean and properly massaged and nature will grow the hair. Write for free circular.

DR. GEORGE LYMAN,
222 Mill St., Peoria, Ill.

BEAUTIFUL SUGAR SHELL FREE

Extra heavy quadruple silver plate, handsomely engraved and embossed in beautiful Narcissus design, finished in the popular French grey style, guaranteed for 10 years, no better silverware made. Sent prepaid for only 10 cts. This special introductory advertising offer good only 10 days. Household Silverware Co., Dept. 15 Topeka, Kans.

FREE GOLD WATCH DESIGN LOCKET & CHAIN

A new beautiful secret locket, can't be told from a ladies' gold watch and star set with seven Pearl stones. 22-inch gold chain. Free for selling only 18 fine Mexican Drawnwork Handkerchiefs at 10c each. No money required. R. W. Eldridge 108 Eldridge Bldg., Orleans, Vt.

BRACELET AND RING FREE

We positively give FREE a fine Adjustable Biggest Bracelet, guaranteed 5 years, also beautiful seven-set fitting for women's perfect high-grade are just sent at 10c a pack. Order 50 packs. When sold send us \$2, and we will positively send Bracelet and Ring. WELLS MFG. CO., Dept. 513 CHICAGO

Silk Remnants

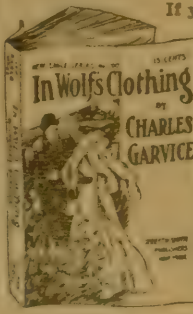
Largest and most beautiful assortment ever offered. Lovely Fancy Patterns and Bright Colors of Fine Tulle, Pique de Soie, etc., that cost \$1 to \$2 a yard. All good sized pieces. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. A Big Package 10c; 3 for 25c. Illustrated Patchwork Book free with order. Joseph Doyle & Co., Dept. 9, Hoboken, New Jersey.

CROWN YOUR TEETH

With our gold-finished shells and fool your friends. Great fully resembles dentist's work. Slips over the tooth, neatly adjusted, removed at will. Over two million sold. Thousands of pleased customers. Price 10c each; 4 for 50c or 12 for \$2.00. C. B. FARGO, Dept. Y, FRENCHTOWN, N.J.

MUSIC LESSONS FREE AT YOUR HOME

Write Today for our Booklet. It tells how to learn to play Piano, Organ, Violin, Mandolin, etc. Beginners or advanced pupils. American School of Music, 11 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago, Ill.



The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

Beauty Vanishes When the Circulation is Poor

EXERCISE, if you want to be beautiful, little maiden with the soulful eyes! Exercise causes the blood to circulate throughout the entire body, nourishing it and keeping it in a normal healthy condition.

Shall we look at the reverse side of the question? Perhaps it would not be amiss. Lack of exercise I find causes the body to lose its vigor, and reduces the active mind to a state of undesirable languor. Anything more? Indeed, yes. When the blood circulates sluggishly throughout the veins, the girl who is proud of her round carnation-pink cheeks, milk-white neck, rosy lips and lustrous eyes must look forward to losing these beauty gifts.

The moral is plain to be seen, I think. The woman who appreciates the priceless gift of beauty will hasten to practice such exercise as will cause her blood to yield its rebuilding nutriment to the tissues and nerves.

I presume a great many of my readers are anxious to secure a good circulation of the blood, now that they know how vital it is to their good looks, but are uncertain what to do to bring about the wished-for result. Shall I offer a suggestion? Don't all say yes at once!

Since you rely upon me for help, I think it would be a splendid plan to spend ten or fifteen minutes each morning in easy, healthful exercise. The movements selected will be of the simplest description, so that the novice in physical culture will have no trouble whatever in practicing same.

If the beauty devotee will follow directions and practice the exercises given below with intelligence and vim, her physical loveliness will increase by leaps and bounds. Don't think for a moment that I am exaggerating results, because, if anything, I am understating them, so there!

It would be a good idea for the beauty devotee to begin her fifteen minute morning practice with the exercise given below:

Exhilarating Exercise for Abdominal Muscles

Recline on the floor with a heavy woolen blanket beneath your body. Lying thus comfortably, inhale deeply and bring body to sitting position. This difficult feat is accomplished by throwing your pretty arms out with a vigorous circular forward motion toward your feet, following with the shoulders and head.

Do not, on any account, hold the inhaled breath while going from first position to second position, but as you raise up, force the air out of your lungs with decided vigor. This expulsion of breath, will, unreasonable as it may seem, assist you in attaining the position shown in illustration, as it brings the abdominal muscles into play.

When returning to original position, do not throw yourself violently back on the floor, as the consequences will be decidedly unpleasant. The upright portion of the body should sink slowly and languidly back to a recumbent position.

This exercise is especially intended to induce circulation in the abdominal cavity and also exhilarates the muscles which surround the assimilative and vital organs, which, by the reflex action of the muscles, are themselves stimulated.

And here is an exercise which will appeal especially to the hoydenish lassie, as it advises her to skip and jump and run with might and main—but not out of doors!

This lively exercise, which physical culturists all swear by, will quickly send the sluggish blood leaping and bounding through the veins in a most agreeable way. In the twinkling of an eye, as it were, the cheeks—with the tips of a close second—will grow a vivid scarlet and the eyes will shine like veritable stars.

As there are ways and ways of running, it would perhaps, be advisable for me to give explicit instructions. What say you? Echo answers Yes.

Running Exercise for General Exhilaration of Sluggish Blood

Spring lightly from the ball of the left foot to the ball of the right, throwing the feet back with considerable vigor, but do not confine yourself to running round and round the room, as in a moment's time you would become exceedingly dizzy. It is wiser to run from corner to corner, up and down and around and around. "Variety is the spice of life," you know.

Unless you are desirous of gaining the ill will of your family, be careful to run lightly. It is not at all necessary to shake the house down!

The last five minutes of the practice time should be spent in playing indoor baseball. Never heard of it? Well, that shows you have failed to keep your eyes and ears open. Indoor baseball as a beauty exercise is all the rage in Austria, where the women are renowned for their well-developed figures, pretty faces and bright, active minds.

When the girl of Nineteen Hundred and Eleven makes up her mind to have a game of baseball all by her "lonesome"—please excuse slang—she selects a tiny, soft rubber ball, borrows her brother's bat—with or without his permission—and shuts herself into a room where pictures and bric-a-brac are tabooed. Then she tosses her rubber ball gaily in the air, hits it a tremendous blow with her bat, and for the next five minutes is nervously engaged in keeping that same little ball flying from pillar to post as it were.

Indoor baseball is heaps and heaps of fun, and I wish fourteen dames and dandies would all engage in this beauty sport. It is just the thing for the lazy girl, the indolent girl, the girl whose friends think she is stupid but who only needs to be aroused, and the pallid faced girl. Be a baseball enthusiast, girls, and your beauty harvest will be rich.

A Word of Warning

Do not practice these violent exercises early in the morning, as after the night's rest the body is in a languid condition and a sudden increase

in the circulation of the blood would be productive of harm. Wait until mid-morning before you engage in any exhilarating exercise.

While these vigorous physical culture movements are necessarily practiced indoors, it is not my purpose to deprive you of fresh air. On the contrary, I hope that the windows—may they be many—of the room in which you practice will be opened to their widest extent, so that fresh, pure air may be steadily supplied to your lungs. Fresh air and sunshine—to say nothing of systematic exercise—are great beautifiers. Do not forget these three aids to comeliness!

Answers to Correspondents

Melisse, Miss L. D. K., Little Miss, California Maid and others.—There are many artificial ways of bringing the glow of health to pale cheeks. One way of inducing rosy cheeks is to take two irregular shaped pieces of cheese-cloth and put them in a bowl containing a mild mustard solution, more water than mustard, I would have you to know. When the cheese-cloth patches are thoroughly saturated with the mustard water, they should be taken out of the bowl and after being gently wrung out, clapped on the cheeks. They should be allowed to remain in place until the skin begins to feel slightly heated, when you must hasten to remove them. The result? Why two very rosy cheeks, to be sure. Of course you must bear in mind that in order to avoid blistering or burning the skin, the mustard water must be of the weakest description. Another thing, do not allow the patches to remain on the cheeks too long, else the consequences will be disastrous. What do you say to this novel way of obtaining carnation-red cheeks?

Polly Ann.—Ice skating is beneficial if not indulged in too vigorously. Most young girls are troubled with eruptions of the skin every month.

Colleen Bawn, Mrs. M. Bertha and others.—If you think your hair is too light in color, why not try darkening it with sage tea? This is a harmless method of obtaining nut brown tresses and generally gives good results. In case you are inclined to try this treatment, I will tell you how the sage tea is made.

Sage Tea Lotion

Green tea, one ounce; garden sage (last crop, dried), one ounce.

Place ingredients in an iron pot and pour in one and a half quarts of extremely hot water. You should now put the pot over a low flame and allow its contents to simmer until reduced to one third, when kettle is removed from the stove and put away in a cool spot. When mixture has stood for twenty-four hours, strain through a piece of thin cotton cloth and bottle. Dampen the scalp and hair with this lotion every night until the desired shade is attained.

L. F., Worried, too Thin and others.—You will find that the milk diet is a perfect bust developer. Take four quarts of milk each day, a glassful every half hour. Begin this treatment when you get up and continue until half past four, then stop, so you will have an appetite for your evening meal. By the by, only take one meal per day while on this diet. It is wise to sip the milk slowly, so it may become salivated. The average bust increase, while on this milk diet, will be an inch every seven days.

Troubled Maid.—You say you worry a great deal, but I do not see why. Your complexion is good, your hair abundant and your figure well high perfect. Cease repining and be thankful for your blessings.

Bessie.—I would advise sticking to your hot water for eight more weeks, as I don't think you have given this treatment a fair trial. You should not expect instantaneous results, as you will be doomed to certain disappointment. I have great faith in hot water as a skin improver, as I know of many cases where it has worked wonders.

Mabelle, Country Girl, Daisy D. and others.—Blackheads are a great trial, but a really treatment will at night, before retiring, with hot soapy water and a rough cloth. After this rub in a little boracic powder and if this smart the skin, massage in cold cream. Every other night scrub blackheads with a soft soapy nail brush, after bathing the face and before the boracic powder is rubbed in. Scrub very lightly, else the skin will be irritated. Once a week, after the face has been washed, steam it over a basin of boiling water, then rinse in hot water and spread over face a handful of soap jelly. After ten minutes wash this off and massage for several minutes. On this night omit the boracic powder.

Soap Jelly

Pare one cake of Castile soap into three cups of water to which has been added one teaspoonful of powdered borax. Boil until mixture jellies. Put in covered glass jar and use as wanted.

Mrs. F. B., Housewife, Nellie and others.—If your hands are not as white and soft as you think they should be, rub a goodly quantity of the following cream into them at night, then draw on a very loose pair of kid gloves and go to bed.

Hand Cream

Melt an ounce of mutton tallow, add one ounce of oil of sweet almonds, and stir until well mingled. Now add three drops of carbolic acid and two drops of oil of rose and beat mixture with an egg beater until it becomes cold and hard. This is quite the daintiest cream that I know of. Try it and see if you don't agree with me.

Bonnie Bride.—Congratulations, my dear. I am glad you are so happy and hope you always will be. Pimples are generally caused by too great a fondness for sweets. If you wish the ugly blotches to disappear, and of course you do, you must taboo candy, pie,



INHALE DEEPLY AND BRING BODY TO SITTING POSITION.

cake, pudding, fried foods, hot breads and greasy meat. I also advise taking plenty of outdoor exercise, sleeping with your bedroom windows opened wide, and making a habit of the daily bath. In addition, it would be a good plan to touch the pimples several times daily with the following lotion:

Pimple Lotion

Precipitate of sulphur, one dram; tincture of camphor, one dram; rose water, four ounces.

Old Maid, Vanity, New England Miss, Katie, Brown Eyes and others.—What is considered to be a good skin bleach is made as follows: Take two or three handfuls of almond meal and a teaspoonful of some oily cream and beat well together, after which add enough tepid water to make a thin spreading paste. Now cut two squares of thin cheese-cloth, passing a small hole in the center of each square, for the nose. This is so my beauty patient won't smother. These squares should be dampened and the paste spread between them. You must now wash the face in warm, soapy water, and after rinsing it well, spread the almond meal on the face. Cover with two hot wet towels and as soon as they cool, replace with others. Keep this up for fifteen minutes. It is a good idea to cover the eyes with wet cotton pads before placing the mask on the face. Use this bleach not oftener than twice a week.

DIAMONDS-WATCHES ON CREDIT

THIS ELGIN WATCH, 17 JEWELS, ADJUSTED,

Men's 16 Size (also Ladies' Size) Thin Model, New Marginal Minute Dial, in Gold Filled Case. Guaranteed for 25 Years, plain polished or handsomely engraved, sent prepaid on

30 DAYS FREE TRIAL THEN \$2.50 A MONTH

Our cut price of \$25.50 for this magnificent Elgin Watch, that will pass Railroad Inspection, is the greatest bargain ever heard of. NO MONEY DOWN—\$2.50 a month after examination by you. Whether you are a railroad man or not, this is the Watch you want. Send us your order today. Write for Xmas Catalog. It tells all about our easy credit plan.

LOFTIS BROS. & CO.

THE OLD RELIABLE ORIGINAL DIAMOND AND WATCH CREDIT HOUSE
Dept. G 984, 108 N. STATE ST., CHICAGO, ILL.
Branch Stores: Pittsburg, Pa., and St. Louis, Mo.



Christmas Special
LOFTIS "PERFECTION" RING
Finest pure white diamond
\$48 \$4.80 A MONTH
Other sizes and styles at \$25, \$75, \$100, \$125. See our Catalog Sent Free.

No. 363

No. 364

Miss S. S. S., T. G. K., Lorane and others.—Thank you for your pleasant letter. I am glad to know that I have been of such assistance to you. And so you want to know how to perfume the hair? This is a very laudable desire and I will gladly give you the information you ask. After the hair has been shampooed and dried is the time to scent it. Take a perfectly clean brush and drop oil of jasmine on the bristles. Now brush the hair thoroughly with the sweet-scented bristles and your hair will be faintly perfumed. It is very simple, is it not? If you dislike oil of jasmine it is permissible to use any other fragrant oil.

Housewife, Busy Woman, Mortified and others.—If you wish to remove vegetable stains from your fingers, use pumice stone. It will take off every bit of discoloration, leaving the skin as good as new. Pumice stone can also be used to smooth away roughnesses of the skin, such as is left by the thread when sewing the long white seam.

D. A. B.—If your fingertips are so callous, I think it would be a good idea to use the following soap on the toughened flesh.

Erasive

White soft soap, one half pound; olive oil, three ounces; powdered pumice stone, four ounces; essence of violet, one dram.

As you may prefer to compound this at home, I will give directions for making. Melt the oil and the soap together, and then stir in the powdered pumice stone. Now add the fragrant essence and proceed to mold the mixture into cakes or balls and set on a tray to dry.

G. G., Annapolis Wife, Anxious Grace, Mrs. B., and others.—I am sure you cannot help but like the following formula for face cream:

Spermaceti, one half ounce; white wax, one half ounce; sweet almond oil, two ounces; lanoline, one ounce; coconut oil, one ounce; tincture of benzoin, three drops; orange-flower water, one ounce.

This skin paste is softening and whitening and possesses nourishing ingredients, hence is just the thing for a too thin face.

Country Flower, Miss Ann, Sadie, Young Wife, Old Subscriber and others.—If your chin is too stout for beauty, wear a chin belt at night. A good way to fix a reducing chin bandage is to buy some elastic webbing and cut off a strip about eight inches long by two and a half inches wide. Line this with thin rubber sheeting. Now take one side of the unfinished belt and gather slightly midway between ends. Sew narrow strips of garter elastic to the four ends. At night place the strip of elastic webbing under chin and beneath chin. Pull up the strips of garter elastic until the belt fits snugly and tie or pin the four ends together at the top of the head. If you do not wish to reduce the chin, omit the rubber lining.

Cosmetic Tar Bleach for Arms

Beat one dram of refined tar and violet extract into a pint of olive oil. Coat the arms with the cream at night, and then wind around them long strips of cotton cloth, fastening ends securely. Do not remove bandage until morning comes.

Happy Twins.—So you want a liquid hand cream, which will keep the hands as "soft as velvet and as white as snow"? Really, you are asking a good deal, but perhaps this cream will answer your purpose: Cold cream, five parts; oil of sweet almond, five parts; glycerine, five parts; boracic acid, five parts; solution of soda, two parts; mulling of quince seeds (two drams to a pint), twenty-five parts; oil of rose enough to perfume.

Heat the cold cream, oil and the solution of soda together, stirring until an emulsion is formed. Warm together the glycerine, acid mulling, and about one hundred and fifty parts of water, and mix with the emulsion. Stir until cold, and make up to the two hundred parts by adding the rest of the water. Add the perfume.

Grandmother, Uncertain, Papa's Pet, Farmer's Wife, Gertie and others.—Yes, I think vaseline is a cure for thin and falling hair, if used in conjunction with vigorous daily massage. It has always proven a success for me after any long illness. If you just common vaseline, I admit it makes the hair oily, but that has to be borne. Try not to get it on the hair, and massage it into the scalp until the skin is pink and glowing. Every eight or nine days, wash your hair in hot rainwater, using a soap jelly. Rinse well and dry in a warm room.

Mrs. Betsy, Western Woman, Blue-eyes, Two Girls, Miss May and others.—If you dislike using powder, and yet want to have a white skin, why not use oatmeal bags? Their constant use will keep the skin beautifully soft and white. All that is necessary is to fill small cheese-cloth bags full with rolled oats and then use them as wash cloths. If your little sister has a blotchy skin, tell her to give up sweets, take a daily bath and eat lecithine. Lecithine will purify the blood quickly and is generally a favorite with young girls.

John's Wife, Miss Lily, S. S. S. E., Mrs. Pete and others.—The sulphur treatment given below is simplicity itself. Take one heaping tablespoonful of sulphur, then pour over it one quart of boiling water. Keep in an air-tight vessel for twenty-four hours, then drain off the clear portion. Rub into the scalp every night until the dandruff entirely disappears. While treating the scalp for dandruff, it is advisable that you be careful what you use for a shampoo. The following liquid is excellent for this purpose, leaving the scalp beautifully clean and the hair as fluffy as heart could wish.

Egg Shampoo

Yolk of two eggs, one quart of hot rainwater, two ounces of rosemary spirits.

This mixture should be well beaten and used while warm, rubbing it well into the scalp and over the hair. Rinse in several waters and sit in the sun until your tresses are free from moisture.

College Girl, Unwile, New Subscriber, Constant Reader and others.—Perhaps you wear your cuffs and collars too tight. This will cause red hands and wrists. Practice holding your hands high above your head for five minutes, three times a day, and hold them occasionally under a stream of cold water.

Lenora.—Massage tip of nose heavily with the following astringent and I think the results will be all you could wish.

Address all letters containing questions to
KATHERINE BOOTH, CARE COMFORT,
AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

well. If you were here you would soon find out. I am all right except I got a sore mouth. I live five blocks from the school house. If you ever come to Clay Center, call at my home and see me, and I will take you around town to see the sights. We are getting the school house painted. All afternoon yesterday, one of the painters was by my window, and every time I would make him would say "You'd better study your lessons." I have lots of fun at school with the girls. There is one that gets across the aisle from me; she is stuck on me. Every time I get any candy I give her some and when she gets any she gives me some. I like her pretty well because she is pretty. I went to church last night after school and she asked me to take her home. I said all right and I did it, and she gave me some candy today at school. Well, I did not know any more news, so good by. Your nephew,
Geo. MAIDEN.

George, your letter reveals a very entrancing picture of glorious youth and good old school

days. Ah, me, how I love to look back on those delightful days of yore, when life was a blissful dream, and there was no landlord hammering at the front door for the rent, and no mother-in-law pounding at the back door, with sixteen trunks, two cats and a parrot, preparatory to being admitted to the house for a short visit of twenty-five years. Oh, how we do love those good old school days, and your letter brings them all back so vividly and picturesquely to our minds. You say: "I have lots of fun at school with the girls." Ah, George, we all did. School would not have been school at all, if it had not been for the girls. There is nothing half so sweet in life as love's young dream. You say: "There is one that sets across the aisle from me." George, for heaven's sake what is an aisle? In vain have I searched the dictionary for anything that bore the faintest resemblance to aisle. After several hours of serious thought, it has occurred to me that you meant aisle, I have seen plenty of aisles in school, the apparatus on which they stand the blackboards, but I cannot imagine the ideal of your dreams sitting across the aisle, as it would be a very uncomfortable seat and very liable to collapse, besides I don't think the teacher would allow it, so I have come to the conclusion that you mean that she sits across the aisle. How the deuce do you get up or down the aisle if she sets across it? I should think she would be liable to block the thoroughfare. To be exact I think you had better put it that she sits on the other side of the aisle. Now about this setting business. I must take the liberty of informing you that a lady sits, and a boy sets. Of course your youthful innamorata may have found it necessary to set, instead of sit, in order to hatch out the correct answer to the arithmetical problems that teacher gave her to do. You also inform us that this young lady is stuck on you. Now how can she set across the aisle and be several yards away from you, and still be stuck on you. Billy the Goat says that when you say she is stuck on you, you intend us to understand that she has a large crush on you; that she is strong for you; that she has a cozy corner in her heart for you; that she would have no objection to you putting the entire contents of your wardrobe in her trunk; that you are the only proposition in pants that cuts any icicles with her; that you have got her into forty kinds of a hypnotic trance; that there is not a second of the night that she does not between snores, gurgle ecstatically the name of George; in other words you have got the scalp of her young affections dangling from your belt, and she will be yours until another boy comes along, who can give her more apples than you can, then your name will be mud, and you

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

BEACON LAMP FREE

BURNER FREE
100,000 satisfied users
Inexpensive, 100 Candle Power, Burns common coal oil. Gives better light than gas, electricity or six ordinary lamps at one-fourth to one-tenth the cost. Fits your old lamp. Unequaled for line saving or reading.
COSTS ONLY ONE CENT FOR SIX HOURS
We want one person in each locality to whom we can refer new customers. Take advantage of our Special Offer and secure a Beacon Burner FREE. Write today. Agents Wanted. HOME SUPPLY COMPANY, 373 Home Building, Kansas City, Mo.

BEAUTIFUL PICTURE FREE

To introduce our famous art pictures we will send absolutely free the celebrated picture "Ward of Bees," in ten beautiful colors, to anyone sending 4 cts. to pay postage. Offer good only 30 days. Address Art Picture Club, 131 West 8th St., Topeka, Kan.

FREE 10 YEAR GUARANTEE

GOLD RING
A beautiful Ladies' Cluster Gold filled ring warranted 10 years, set with two large cut amethyst, ruby or emerald stones and two small pearls, FREE for selling only 18 fine Mexican Drawnwork handkerchiefs at only 10c each. No money required.
R. W. CLIBBIE, 29 Edison Building, Orleans, Vt.

Corns Permanent relief is secured

only by removing roots and all. A-Corn Salve does that easily, quickly and safely, and costs only 15 cents at drugists' or by mail.
Giant Chemical Co., Philadelphia

Learn to Stuff Birds and Animals. A

earned at home. Big Profits. A delightful art, easily mastered. Decorate your home. We teach men, women, boys by mail. Write for Free Book today. N.W. School of Taxidermy, 2377 Elwood Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

PILLOWS FREE

Mail us \$10.00 for 36 pound Feather Bed and receive 6 pound pair Pillows. Freight prepaid New Feathers, best ticking, satisfaction guaranteed. Agents wanted. TURNER & CORNWELL, Dept. C, FEATHER DEALERS, Christie, N. C.

12 POST CARDS Xmas, New Years, Birthdays, etc. also FREE

your name in our Post Card Exchange and Catalogs and premium list. Enclose 4c. stamps for return postage, etc.
N. L. MUNRO, 24 VANDEWATER ST., N. Y.

6 CHRISTMAS CARDS FREE

Six lovely sample gold embossed Christmas Cards will be sent you free if you enclose 2-cent stamp for postage. A. Porter, 107 Clinton Street, Chicago, Ill., Dept. 605

WANTED-ACTIVE MAN IN EACH LOCALITY. To join this Society. And introduce our Membership. Sick, accident, death benefits. All or spare time. \$50 to \$500 a month. Every Member secured gives you a steady monthly income. Box D-C-233, Covington, Ky., U. S. A.

Gold Finished Signet Ring your initial free. Will stand acid test, 10c. each or 3 for 25c. M. WANER, Pennington, N. J.

65 CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES 10c

We will positively send you prepaid 65 Useful Christmas Articles for only 10c. Wm. Howe Co., 6607 Madison Ave., Chicago.

COINS

I pay from \$1 to \$500 for thousands of rare coins, stamps and paper money to 1894. Send stamp for illustrated circular, get posted and make money quickly. VONBERGEN, 210 Cate Street, Dept. C F., Boston, Mass.

Things the MODERN FARMER must know

Rotating Crops

PARDON us if we ask two personal questions of each farm reader of COMFORT. They are these: 1. Have you a map or chart of your farm showing plainly each field and other enclosure? 2. Do you follow a set rotation in growing crops on those fields? Those who can answer in the affirmative are most likely the most successful farmers; those who have to answer "No" are in all probability, good, hard-working farmers who have not given much thought to the business management of their farms and who, therefore, are not making a maximum success of the business. Let us suggest that just as soon as the corn shocks are stacked or housed and the fall plowing completed it would be a fine and profitable job to make the map in question, just a rough plan such as you can make yourself. When this has been done give each field a number and



IS IT WHEAT, WHEAT, WHEAT?

If you find that the farm is poorly divided as regards equality of areas and apportionment of the various kinds of soils, or drainage areas, make a better plan and shift the fences as soon as possible. In a book now set down each field number and write opposite it the variety of crop produced by that field in 1910, 1911 and to be produced in 1912. If possible to remember aright, better set down what has been grown on each field for the last ten years; then ask yourself if each field has been treated decently, or abused, or insulted, or plainly robbed. Robbery has been wholesale in fashion if you have been raising the same kind of crop year after year on the same field. Each field must have a rest from one crop, but while resting may raise a different kind of crop. That is rotation of crops, and in theory, the longer between the same crops the better will it be for the field and for the crop. We cannot afford to wait a great many years between crops and so we rest the land in grass and change crops in a prearranged way to rest the land as much as possible that fertility may not be quickly removed and that new fertility may have a chance to form. Suppose one were to cream the same milk each morning for a week it would be a mighty poor sample of skim milk that remained, would it not? If we grow the same kind of crop year after year we are doing the very same thing. We are skimming the richness out of the land so far as that kind of crop is concerned. Each crop consumes certain plant foods. Each crop needs various foods; but some crops eat heartily and heavily of one particular food, and if that crop is grown year after year the one food needed for its growth becomes exhausted and the crop fails and the land is exhausted. In this way pioneer farmers robbed the land of nitrogen by years of successive wheat production until land that still should be rich no longer produces profitable crops of wheat. Such land, too, becomes infested with the insects and plant diseases that affect the particular crop grown. Thus there is another reason for rotation. The insect and disease pests must be allowed to die out and they will do so if we deprive them of the sort of plant crop on which they thrive. One secret of success in modern farming, so far as conservation of fertility is concerned, is to adopt and follow a proper scheme of crop rotation and at the same time make legumes (clovers, beans, peas) a prominent feature and live stock at least a side-business in our operations. Are you doing this? or are you trying to grow corn, corn, corn; or wheat, wheat, wheat; or cotton, cotton, cotton; or tobacco, tobacco, tobacco, where these crops have been grown year after year? If you are you are riding to inevitable disaster. Indeed it has happened in many places. The remedy is to rotate the crops. The prevention of failure is that rotation also. Have we interested you in these suggestions? If so ask questions and they will be willingly and cheerfully answered relative to bettering cropping conditions. This is your department. Don't be bashful. Let us get acquainted one with the other so that each may help each.

Boarder Cows

Are you keeping boarders in your dairy herd? Some men think that because they feed home-grown hay and grain and have plenty of pasture that all a cow produces is clear profit. Such however, is not the case. At present prices of feed in almost any part of the United States it costs from thirty to fifty dollars a year to keep a cow. All this must be returned to the owner before the cow can produce a single cent of profit. If it costs forty dollars to keep a cow and the average price of butter for that year is twenty-five cents per pound, a cow must produce one hundred and sixty pounds of butter in order to pay for her feed. Of course there is the skim milk and the manure which has value as fertilizer, and the calf worth a few dollars. But all these together will hardly pay for her shelter and the care put upon her. She must produce more than one hundred and sixty pounds of butter before she pays for feed. If she produces less the loss must be made up in some other way, and your cow is only a "boarder", and a poor boarder at that, one that never does and never can pay her board bills. Every boarding housekeeper has experience with "dead beats" and in order to make up losses from this source he has to charge the good boarders a little more than he otherwise would. The remedy however is to get rid of

To Make the Farm Pay

This department, which is conducted by eminent specialists and experts in the various branches of agricultural science and practical, business farming, will keep our readers posted on the latest scientific discoveries and teach them the best methods of operating in order to obtain GREATER FARM PROFITS AND BETTER HOME LIVING.

Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address, and direct your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

the "dead beat." Do you keep boarder cows in your herd?

The Gas Engine on the Farm

Farmers are just beginning to realize the value of gas engines and these machines are coming rapidly into use on all the best farms. One farmer has a three-horse gas engine in a small building near his well. Through this building runs a line shaft and to this shaft are fixed several pulleys. From these pulleys run belts to the various machines which he has installed in this building. At milking time he starts the engine, throws on a belt and goes about his work. This belt leads to the pump and is so arranged that when the tank is full a float automatically shifts this belt from the pump pulley over to one connected with an electric generator and the engine

farm and the engine runs both churn and works the butter, a job usually left to the housewife. Always when there is an excess of power incident to running with light loads the electric generator is thrown in and this excess of power is stored up for lighting the house which, by the way, is provided with all modern conveniences. Aside from the cost of installing the lighting plant it costs practically nothing to light the house because energy is used that would otherwise be wasted.

The gas engine has made this farm home equal in every way to our best city residences and who would not rather live on a farm in such a home?

A Word for the Farmer's Wife

Imagine for a moment the change that has taken place in methods of farming in the past

Our New Agricultural Department.

I shall spare no effort or expense to make the new department, which is here inaugurated, both interesting and instructive to our readers, most of whom are engaged in the pursuit of some line of agriculture. Supplemented by our poultry and veterinary departments it will cover every branch of farming, and in connection with our other departments will complete COMFORT'S sphere of usefulness as an all-round family magazine.

Farming ranks as the most important industry in the United States, and rightly conducted is among the most profitable.

Changes that have come about in the last ten years have vastly improved the social and financial opportunities of the farmers and their families, and it will be the aim of this department to help our readers to obtain greater farm profits and better home living by showing them how to make the most of their splendid possibilities; for the changed conditions, beneficial as they are to those who take advantage of them, are more than likely to prove detrimental to those who ignore them and keep along in the old rut.

Experience with my own hundred and sixty acre farm in the suburbs of Augusta, as well as observation of others, teaches me that the farmer must keep up with the march of progress or be relegated to the rear of the procession.

"Knowledge is power" on which depends success in farming quite as much as in any other occupation or line of business. The era of ignorance and of slovenly, wasteful, hit-or-miss methods of farming has passed, and the old-style farmer that used to be the favorite subject of caricature is fast disappearing, crowded down and out by the bright, intelligent men who make use of the new knowledge and improved methods of agriculture.

Farming has become a business and an applied science. The farmer of today has to adopt up-to-date business methods in the business management of his farm, and in operating it he must utilize the discoveries that are continually being made in the science of agriculture.

In other words, the farmer, like any other business man or manufacturer must keep abreast of the times in the matter of improved methods, processes and machinery, or go to the wall.

The farmer is in competition with every other farmer, for the price of farm produce, in the long run, is governed by the average cost of production. The farmer who produces his crops at the average cost will make a bare living if he has good luck, while the man whom it costs more than the average is most likely operating at a loss which in time will result in a mortgage and the ultimate loss of his farm. Competition drives the price to a figure that leaves only a living profit above average cost. Therefore the farmer who would get ahead must produce his crops at less than average cost, and to do this, year after year under prevailing conditions, he must know and must make use of the most effective and economical methods.

At the national teachers' convention in Boston, last year, it was proposed that, in view of the immense practical importance of the subject, farming should be taught in the public schools, but one of the leading educators replied that, although highly desirable, it was impossible because agriculture had become such a great science, beyond the capacity of the ordinary teacher, that it could not be taught successfully except in special schools and colleges.

The federal and state governments are wisely expending millions annually for scientific research in the various branches of agriculture and for maintaining agricultural colleges in which the results are taught.

The information thus accumulated is of inestimable value to the farmers, but as few of them can take the regular course of instruction I have arranged to give COMFORT subscribers the benefit of the new knowledge of agriculture and to keep them posted on the latest discoveries in this line of science through our "Modern Farmer" department which begins in this number and will be an important and valuable feature of each monthly issue of COMFORT. In this department which will be conducted by experts and specialists of high attainments and wide experience in their respective branches, there will appear, each month, one or more special articles besides the answers to questions on farming submitted by our subscribers. I invite all our subscribers to make free use of this department by sending in their questions to be answered through these columns. This is a valuable privilege free to COMFORT subscribers, and the answers will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

W. H. GANNETT.

then stores up its energy in the form of an electric current in a storage battery connected therewith. This current is used to light the farmhouse at night. The engine continues to run without waste of fuel or loss of energy until the farmer has separated his milk and shut it off. He saws wood grinds feed, pumps water, separates milk, runs a feed-cutter, shells corn and mixes concrete with a home-made concrete mixer for his walks and floors all with this engine. But this is not all. Here is a farmer who does not appropriate all the labor-saving devices to himself for he has so arranged it that on Mondays this same power is used to do the family washing, running both washing machine and wringer.

For a part of the year butter is made on this

twenty years! Think, if you will, of the great improvement in labor-saving machinery. The riding sulky plow has supplanted the walking plow, the hayfork and the hay loader have taken the place of the pitchfork, the twine binder has sent the old-fashioned cradle to the attic there to rust and decay—the manure spreader, the litter carrier, the cream separator, and the gas engine are here to stay. All these lighten the load of the farmer, make his work easier and earning capacity.

But what of the farmer's wife? Has science and invention done so much for her? Point if you can to a single machine, perfected during the past twenty years, that has revolutionized housework as much as the twine binder has the work

of the harvest. Name one thing if you can that has lightened her labor so much as the hay loader has lightened the work of her husband at baying time. Suggest a single device or invention so effective in shortening her hours of toil as the gas engine is in reducing the farmer's hours of labor.

And now, my dear farmer reader, look about you. Take stock of what you had to do with twenty years ago and what you have now. Count up your new machines and your numerous labor-saving devices which you got along without twenty years ago. Next consider the ease of your patient, loving wife in the same way. Be thoughtful not antagonistic or critical. Do you pump the water for your wash water by hand? Do you grind feed for your hogs with a gas engine and permit her to grind out the family washing with her bare knuckles on a rough wash-board? Do you carry out the barnyard manure with a litter carrier and compel her to lug out the kitchen slops in a big tobacco pail? Have you done as much for her as you have for yourself? If not why not?

Answers to Correspondents

ACTION OF LIME.—Has lime any action on soils apart from chemical influence in setting free plant foods and making new combinations of chemical matters? I am not sure just how lime works in the soil. N. J. Mich.

A.—Lime tends to bind light, sandy soils and loosen those of heavy or clay formation. Lime tends to work down through the soil and in time may form a lime pan, if used in large quantities. Such actions are termed "physical". When clay is opened by lime air and water find free entrance and that means more healthy soil for plants. Sandy soil acted upon by lime is rendered more retentive of moisture.

SOIL MULCH.—What is meant by "soil mulch"? We use straw and marsh hay in mulching strawberries and occasionally for potatoes; also in orchards to some extent. How could soil be used as a mulch? P. F. C., Wis.

A.—You have misunderstood the term in your reading. By soil mulch is meant a shallow layer of fine, pulverized, dry soil on the surface of a field bearing a crop, or being dry fallowed. The layer referred to acts as a mulch in that it prevents the rapid evaporation of the soil. This is brought about by the breaking up of the little interstices, spaces and so-called "capillaries" of the soil which conduct water from the subsoil to the surface. Evaporation from the surface going on all the time means constant drawing of water from the deep soil and in time the entire amount of soil water will be exhausted. The surface layer draws moisture from the subsoil just as a lampwick draws up oil to replace that which is burned. Soil mulching is one of the chief items of the "dry farming" of the semi-arid plains.

GRASS MIXTURE.—What would you advise as a mixture of grass seeds to sow where one does not want to depend upon timothy and clover alone? M. E., Ill.

A.—The following mixture has been suggested: Timothy, ten pounds; red clover, eight pounds; alsike, two pounds; orchard grass, four pounds; Italian rye grass, five pounds; English rye grass, four pounds; meadow fescue, four pounds. This will be likely to give a better and bigger hay crop than if timothy alone is used. Bluegrass seed will come in alone in time, but if a pasture is wanted five pounds of bluegrass seed may be added to the above mixture. The grass seeds are sown in fall and the clover in spring. Advice on this subject may be found in Farmers' Bulletin No. 101 of the Department of Agriculture.

RAPE FOR HOGS.—What kind of rape is best to sow as hog pasture and does rape cause any bad effects to the animals? How many pounds of seed should be sown to the acre? F. H., Iowa.

A.—Be sure that the seedsmen supplies Dwarf Essex rape. Often poor quality "bird seed rape" is substituted and it gives poor satisfaction. Three pounds of seed to the acre should suffice. It may be sown in corn at the "laying by" or last working. It is excellent for sheep and lambs as well as hogs. White hogs pastured on rank growths of green rape are about sure to sun scald when exposed to direct rays of sun. This trouble sometimes causes loss of flesh and lack of growth. Hogs are best kept on rape and should have shelter in heat of day. It is best to sow rape as a separate crop. It will do best on rich clay loam, or black corn land. Sow either in drills thirty inches apart and at the rate of two pounds per acre, or broadcast at rate of three pounds per acre. The crop usually is ready for use in about sixty days and provides from twenty to thirty tons of green feed, one acre being able to maintain about twenty hogs or lambs for two or three months, if in good condition and well cultivated.

WINTER SOIL COVER.—What is advised as a measure of protection where land tends to wash in winter time? R. N., Mo.

A.—For either soil washing or blowing it is best to keep the field covered with some crop during winter. According to the district where the trouble occurs sow in the corn field in the last cultivation any seed that will come up quickly and cover the ground. The seed may be sown as soon as the corn is cut and shocked, in those districts where that is the practice. For the purpose it is common to use winter rye, or wheat; or clovers will do in some places; or, toward the south, cowpeas, velvet beans, or soy beans. Rape often is used and fed off. Even if the fall crop is cut the roots in the ground will grow and help to prevent soil washing. The turning under of the green crops acts as a useful source of fertilizing matter.

SILAGE FOR HORSES.—Is it safe to use corn silage as feed for horses? If so how would you advise to use it? M. S. C., N. Y.

A.—Silage can be used, provided it is absolutely free from mold. Moldy silage will kill horses as sure as a shotgun. Many horses have died from cerebrospinal meningitis after eating moldy silage taken from the top of the silo and thrown into the barnyard. In feeding silage to horses prefer it for idle working horses and growing colts. It should not be fed to a stallion in the breeding season and is not good food for a pregnant mare, after the first third of the period of gestation. It is too loosening for the hard-working horse. Combine the silage with cut hay and alfalfa, or use cut straw if hay cannot be spared. A noted Wisconsin horse breeder feeds silage to his horses after mixing it with cut hay and straw. The mixture is four parts of hay and one of straw, cut about three inches long, by being run through the silage cutter. One part of the hay-straw mixture is added to five parts of silage at feeding time. Aged heavy draft stallions not in the breeding season, take twenty-four pounds of silage in three feeds a day. Two-year-olds take about twenty pounds; yearlings about fifteen pounds; nursing mares twenty pounds; weanling colts take about seven pounds of silage a day. In all cases the silage is but a part of the ration.

MOLASSES FOR STOCK FEEDING.—Is beet sugar molasses as good as cane sugar molasses for stock feeding? Do you recommend feeding molasses to work horses? J. H., Ohio.

A.—No. Cane sugar molasses is good feed and often profitable, but this cannot be said of the molasses from sugar beets. If black strap molasses can be bought at about fourteen cents for a gallon of about twelve pounds it may be profitably used as a feed for cows, to mix with other feed and render it more palatable. Often it costs about twenty cents a gallon, or some thirty-three dollars per ton. Twenty-one pounds of black strap molasses have been fed in one day to a horse. The common practice, where molasses is fed to horses, is to allow one quart of the molasses to three quarts of hot water, then stir this among cut hay, five pounds; corn meal, four quarts; coarse bran, two pints. Give this night and morning with whole oats at noon and long hay at night. It is said that five quarts of molasses can be given daily to a twelve hundred and seventy pound horse with advantage and without detriment.

GROWING MUSHROOMS.—Is the winter growing of mushrooms a safe and profitable business for a woman to take up? Mrs. K. B., Pa.

A.—Like everything else mushroom growing takes patience, skill and experience and one has to have the right kind of place, a near and will supply of fresh horse manure and virgin soil and then a nearby appreciative market for the product. Mushrooms sell for from fifty to sixty cents a pound in some of the large centers in the months of January and February and it is quiet possible to have fair supplies for a market at that time of year. Some successful amateurs have raised as much as fifty pounds of marketable mushrooms from a bed ten feet by ten feet in size. The cost was about five dollars. Any reputable seller of mushroom brick spawn will furnish particulars as to culture.



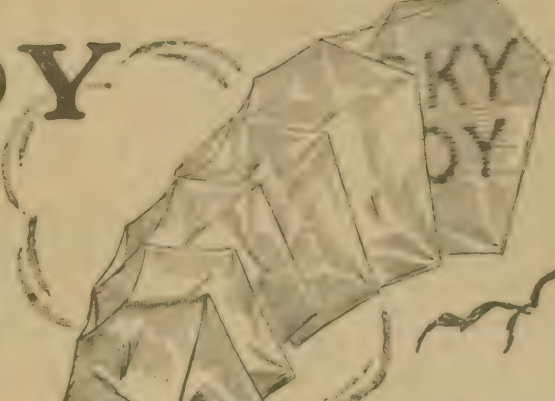
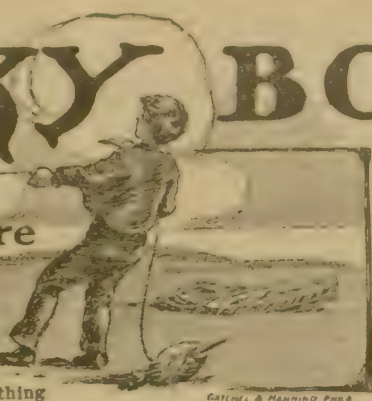
ARE YOU KEEPING BOARDERS IN YOUR DAIRY HERD?



THE SKY BOY

A Story of Adventure

By William S. Birge, M.D.



Copyright, 1911, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

CHAPTER I.

WE had the greatest string of kites that Santa Monica had ever seen. Three of us boys had gotten the kite craze. We had formed a club of our own called the "Sky Boys"; the object and chief aim of the club being to perpetuate our names as being the greatest kite flyers in the country.

In this I may say that we succeeded to our own satisfaction, starting in on a small scale with the ordinary paper-covered, light-framed single kites, we gradually increased our paraphernalia in that line until the Saturday when our story commences, we had finished the construction of a series of six mammoth kites rigged tandem fashion, the frame of each being constructed of bamboo rods, firmly lashed together with waxed shoemaker's twine, very strong and not at all clumsy. The covering was of light duck securely sewed to the framework. When completed number one kite stood eight feet high by six in breadth, number two was six feet by four, number three five feet by three, and four five and six, four feet by three. The flying cord was made of hemp, about half the size of the ordinary clothes-line and very much stronger.

The Saturday morning came, bright and pleasant, with a strong easterly wind, just what we wanted for our experimental test. We carried the kites down to Uncle Jim's pasture, a big lot, some five or six acres in extent, sloping gradually to the waters of the bay. We could not have had a better place, just outside the town, we would not be bothered by curious onlookers, and there was plenty of room to run for the soaring. If the kites should extend their flight out over the waters of the bay we could manipulate the flying cord without getting entangled in buildings or trees of any description.

We had some difficulty at first in getting the kites to rise. There would have been no trouble with a single kite, but for three boys to handle six and at the same time to furnish the motive power to raise them against the strong wind that was blowing, each kite pulling back on the other was quite a proposition. Harry Brown held the largest, which had "Sky Boy" painted on it in great, big black letters, as high as he could lift it, standing on an old settee, which Uncle Jim kept there so he would have a place to sit when he came down to smoke and look out on the water. The second and third kites we stood up in wooden chairs, which also belonged to Uncle Jim's collection of articles for restless purposes, the backs of the chairs holding them in an upright position; the three smaller kites were held upright by means of sticks stuck in the ground.

We made several unsuccessful attempts before we succeeded in getting the six flyers into the air. It was no easy matter for Tom Forbes and me to drag all that canvas against the wind, but we kept at it until the last of the small kites left the ground, bucking at first against the one ahead, and then soaring gracefully over our heads.

Higher and higher they went, as we let out on the line, everything drawing to a nicety. We had paid out about two hundred feet of line, and it was all the three of us could do to hold on, and keep from being dragged all around the lot.

"I say, boys," cried Harry, "let's fasten the line to the bench, it will be a sight easier than hanging on to it with our hands."

We all agreed to Harry's proposition, and we immediately made the line fast around the body of the settee. It seemed to be just the thing, and we were glad to ease up the strain on our aching arms. We sat down on the bench to rest ourselves, and watch the kites soaring so gracefully far above us. The lifting power of a train of kites, like those we had, in a strong breeze, is tremendous, much more than we realized at the time; a surprise to us then, and a greater one to me later on, as developments will show.

While we sat there, talking over the success of our experiment, a cat boat made a landing on the beach, a short distance from us, just below the rising. It was Uncle Jim Dunning and his boy Tim, and the boat was called the Alice Dunning. He was not a real uncle to any of us boys, but everybody called him Uncle Jim. They had been up to the city to fit out their boat for a week's cruise to the fishing grounds. They had hauled the boat up here to take a run up home, they would start for the fishing grounds later in the day, that had always been their custom, and there was no reason why they should change it now.

"Let's go down and see what Uncle Jim has to say," exclaimed Tom, rising to his feet. We were all agreed, and started for the shore; this was where surprise number one came in. We had not gone more than forty feet on our way, when we heard a scraping noise, and a sound like something heavy bumping up and down behind us. We turned, and to our amazement saw the bench half suspended in the air bobbing along behind us, laughing at the mishap to our anchorage, we captured the runaway bench, and again sat down on it to think out a better plan to make secure our refractory playmate in the sky.

"Well, you boys, hey got your hands full, now, haven't yew?" said Uncle Jim, as he and Tim, having hauled their boat up, came along to where we were sitting.

"I guess we have, Uncle Jim," I replied.

"I should say so by the way that bench was traveling along. Why, if one of you boys was to try to hold them sky flyers alone, I reckon you'd do some mighty high steppin' afore you brought to, unless you cut yer cable," and the old man laughed loudly, as they passed along. "I say, boys," said Harry Adams, after Uncle Jim and his son had passed along, "I wonder if the kites would carry one of us fellows?"

"If we had a basket here we might try it," I replied, "we might lash it on the cord in some way."

"We don't need a basket," continued Harry, "there are two old chairs without any legs, where the big willow tree used to be, that went in the swing; one of those rigged into a kind of a boatswain's chair would be just the thing."

"Let's try it!"

"I'll get the chair," said Tom, "you fellows hold down the bench until we find something better for an anchorage."

In a few moments he was back with the chair. Cutting off a piece of cord from the extra ball we had brought with us, we soon had it rigged fast to the kite line so that it would remain in an upright position, no matter at what angle the cord might assume.

"Come, Harry, get aboard, you're entitled to first choice, you proposed the scheme," I said.

Harry climbed into the chair, and Tom and I casting the line off the settee, we grasped it firmly in our hands.

The wind was blowing a bit stronger than when we first started our kite flying, and Harry,

in his chair, bobbed up and down in anything but a comfortable manner. We eased up on the line a trifle and he arose some fifteen or twenty feet in the air. Despite the fact of his weight on the line, we had all we could do to hold the kites within bounds, they were dragging us this way and that, and it became evident that we must find something for an anchorage that was more stable than the old settee. About half way between us and the shore was a roll of barbed wire that Uncle Jim intended to use for fencing in a pasture, and close beside it was an old mowing-machine wheel covered with rust, and long since abandoned to the elements. This would be just the thing. Slowly we staggered across the field with our burden. It was hard work to hold it in, and to prevent Harry from soaring higher. Finally we reached our goal, and passing the ball of twine through the roll of barbed wire, we eased up a little on the line. It was not heavy enough, it dragged; the mowing-machine wheel was but a few feet distant, we took a turn around that also, and found that it held securely. Harry, who was now nearly thirty feet above us, signified his intention of coming down.

"You'll blister your hands, if you're not careful," I said.

"I'll take a turn with my leg around the line, and slide down all right."

Down he came, hand over hand, and a moment later was on the ground beside us.

"Let's haul down on the line, if we can," he said, "and bring the chair nearer the ground, you or Tom may want to take a sail in the air later on."

By our united efforts, and using a flange on the mowing-machine wheel as a bit, we hauled down on the line, much as a sailor would manœuvre in hauling up a vessel's sails, until we brought the chair down to within four feet of the ground, when we fastened the line securely.

We had been so busily engaged that we did not realize how the time had flown until we heard the Howard factory whistle blow for three o'clock, the hour for closing on Saturday. When I heard that whistle blow, my stomach began to feel as though I wanted to put something in it, and I guess the other fellows felt the same, for they both said they must go home and get some dinner. I wanted to go, too, but I said I would stand guard over the kites, and wait until they got back.

They hurried away, but as they had nearly a mile to go I knew it would be at least an hour before they could get back. I sat on the bench a while, watching the kites until I got tired of that; then I thought I would get in the chair for a while, and see how it felt to swing back and forth in the air. Before doing so, I unfastened the kite line, passed it under the rim of the mowing-machine wheel, and then under the chair seat so I could tie it to the arm of the chair. In this way, after I took my seat, I could let myself rise as high as I chose in the air, the line passing through the roll of barbed wire and the iron wheel and under the chair could be easily held in my hands without any danger of its slipping. I climbed into my seat and gradually let out the line. Ten, fifteen, twenty feet, that was high enough. I fastened the line and sat swinging easily. The sensation was a novel one and I enjoyed it. I almost forgot that I was hungry and thought what a surprise it would be to the boys when they returned to see me floating around in the air. I did not know that a much greater surprise awaited them as well as myself.

I suppose that the strain of the drawing kites, and the hauling on the line, had loosened the old wheel from the earth in which it was partially embedded for I had not been enjoying my elevated position more than ten or fifteen minutes, when I heard a scraping sound, and felt myself bobbing up and down. I was being dragged across the field, barbed wire, mowing-machine wheel and all. It happened so sudden like that I didn't know what to do. I just held on and waited, I was making good time, too, straight for the water, which was now but a few yards distant.

CHAPTER II.

Pretty soon—for of course it all happened in no time—I could see the white surf breaking just under me, as I sat in the chair us boys had tied to the kite cord. And then I had just one last hope of being caught and pulled in again, for the mowing-machine wheel, with the barbed wire, dragged along right close to Jim Dunning's fishing boat, drawn up on the sand. I knew that Jim and his son were getting ready to go out in her, but there was nobody near her then. Still, I hoped the wire would catch the boat somehow and hold on. And it did, for it jumped and bounced along, and got tangled up in the thwart; and the first thing I knew it was dragging the Alice Dunning out to sea, stern foremost. I had hoped she was heavy enough to hold the team of kites, but she wasn't.

They say that when a fellow is drowning or falling from a tree, and expects to get killed, he can think in one second of about everything that ever happened to him. And I guess it's true, for that was what I did.

You see, when the kite-team strained at the anchorage and at the boat, pulling it into the water, the resistance held the cord back, as it was meant to be held, and the kites flew high. But when the boat was fairly afloat it slipped along so kind of easy in the water that the kites began to fall. There wasn't drag enough. The first thing I knew I was being doused in the water, chair-seat and all, still dragging

along at a great rate; and I had to think quick or I knew I'd be drowned. I would have been, anyway, with only one kite, but a team of 'em help each other keep steadier.

How could I get out ballast enough to give the kites the resistance they needed to keep up in the air?

Luck gave me a chance to find out, for, first thing I knew, I was washed out of my chair-seat by the water, and I grabbed the rope below the chair-lashing. It seemed as if I went spinning along the rope, but of course I just stayed still and the kites dragged the ropes through my hands until I found myself all tangled up in the boat and the rope and the barbed wire; and then I climbed into the boat, half drowned and pretty badly scratched, and fell over a thwart, and was scratched some more, and lay still a minute resting.

Then I crawled to my feet again, and wiped the salt water out of my eyes, and could see that I was already a long way from the shore, and the kites flying very low and wabbling round a good deal, just ready to fall. And if they had fallen I'd have been better off, because the folks could have come out and picked me up. But I didn't want our eight best kites to get into the water and be spoiled.

So I began to heave the sail overboard to make a drag or sea-anchor. The boat was a cat, with two pair of oars for calm weather, and a centerboard, and a mast that you could take down when you weren't using it. The sail was pretty heavy for me to handle, but I got it over the side a little at a time, and belayed one corner of it to a tholepin so it wouldn't get lost. And the sail dragged along in the water and checked the boat a little, and the kites began to rise higher, but not very high, and I knew I had enough drag out for the present, and so I could stop to breathe.

First I looked at the shore. I don't know how far away it was but it seemed all of two miles, and I couldn't make out much of anything.

The sail was pulling along in the water in a stringy way, like a dish-cloth. I knew the friction would be greater and make the kites fly better if I could make it lie flat on the water. So I looked around the boat, and there were the mast and the oars and the boom and plenty of rope all tangled up in the barbed wire. Before I touched anything I looked to see if the barbed wire was likely to slip and let go. It was wound around the mowing-machine wheel pretty well and around itself, and knotted up about the cord, so I couldn't have changed it just then if I'd tried. Anyhow, it was tangled up strong enough, so that the wheel didn't sink, but hung in the water over the stern not more than two feet down.

Still I was afraid the wire barbs might cut the kite-rope, so I reached out with the boat hook beyond the wheel and got a hold of the cord with it and pulled it part way in, until I could lean over the stern and fasten to it one end of a strong sail-rope I found in the boat; and then I tied that short and fast to a cleat on the inside of the boat. After that I felt safer, because the kite-rope might rub against the barbed wire all it liked below the splice and do no damage.

The next thing was to fix my sea-anchor, which I did by fastening the boom all along the bottom of the sail, where it belonged, and letting it out astern, with a rope, fastened to each end of the boom, so that the sail lay flat on the water and pulled good. But, before I did that, I had coiled up all the trailing ends of barbed wire the best way I could, bending it over an oar handle, for it was pretty stiff.

When I had the wire all coiled and the sail dragging behind, I looked behind. The land was already out of sight.

I knew two things then. One was that I had been fussing with the drag a long time, and the other was that I was going pretty fast. I wasn't much scared, for I was sailing along with an east wind, right in the track of many ships. I didn't know then that you can only see a ship at sea about seventeen miles because of the curve of the earth's surface, and that a vessel often goes for days without sighting another, even on the North Atlantic.

There was one good thing. There wasn't going to be any shipwreck. I could see the sail lying flat on the water and holding back a good deal more than it had when it was all of a bunch, while of course the kites began to hold pretty steady now.

And I was glad of that, too, because the water grew rougher all the time as I got out from shore, though the wind was steady. But now, with a good drag behind, the kites pulled strong enough to keep the stern of the boat well up out of the water. If they hadn't we could never have gone backwards that way at all but would have sunk.

The Alice Dunning was a good sea boat, and was built for out-side fishing. She had a good-sized cuddy up forward, big enough to sit in, and a bunk on either side. You'd better believe I was glad when I opened the door to a big

locker in the forward end of the cuddy to find that Jim Dunning had put the provisions for his fishing trip in there before my kites pulled the boat out. I knew they generally carried

food enough to last them a number of days, but this time they evidently intended to be gone longer than usual for besides the fresh stuff, such as bread and cheese, and sandwiches, and hard-boiled eggs, there was a number of cans of corned-beef and condensed milk, a package of ground coffee, and some pilot-bread. There was also a ten gallon keg of water, a can of kerosene oil, and a one burner stove, to make coffee on. I decided to begin on sandwiches, and finish up with bread and eggs. I was ravenously hungry and knew that I would feel better after I had eaten a good square meal.

I had been working pretty hard for many hours and I had everything safe for the night. Of course the boat wasn't shipshape at all, with pieces of rope and stuff scattered round; but that didn't matter so much if nothing was likely to break or be lost.

The wind was only a little north of east, but I knew that it would gradually swing farther to the northeast as the tradewind got a better grip, and then I felt certain I'd be right in the steamship path between Honolulu and San Francisco all the way, and would be pretty sure to be picked up sooner or later. So I didn't worry much.

My! How good the food tasted. I sat and ate a long time, and kept getting fuller and fuller, but still I couldn't bear to stop eating and drinking. It kind of kept me from feeling lonesome. As I sat on the thwart, midships and chipped egg-shells on the gunwale it didn't seem to me possible that I could be sailing over the biggest ocean in the world drawn by a team of kites—everything tasted so natural and every-day like.

Of course I ate a long time, because I knew how lonesome I'd feel when I stopped, but I had to stop by and by.

Then I looked back toward Santa Monica, as near as I could guess the direction, and as I strained my eyes to see what was already out of sight, I noticed something else, a big, dark bank of purple shadow stealing up out of the distance toward the shore, and the purple shadow widened and climbed up the sky, and crept round to right and left. Ahead of me was the dying yellow of the sunset, and all round the steady gray of the sea, light gray blue toward the west, toning down to dark blue to right and left, and at last in black behind under that big strip of shadow. And it was a shadow. It was the big round shadow of the earth itself, that makes the night, stealing up out of the east and chasing me a thousand miles an hour, pretty near.

And I thought how it was already night in Santa Monica, and how bad ma would feel and Uncle Jim, and Harry and the other fellows. I don't suppose there was a lonesome little chap in all the world.

I guess something must have got into my eyes then that kept me from seeing very well, or perhaps it was the light that still glowed in the west that made it hard to keep a good lookout ahead.

All at once I saw something on the horizon off to the southwest. I couldn't tell which way it was going, and so I sat and watched it, and it grew bigger and bigger down there to the left. It was a sail, I thought, but so black against the sunset light I could hardly tell; when I rose on the crest of a wave I could see it plainer, and I began to figure how I could get near enough to be taken off. I thought maybe I could change my course a little to the left by shortening the drag-rope on that side, and it worked so well that I put out a steering-oar on that side, too, and lashed it so that it would swing the Alice Dunning over that way. Then I took another oar in my hand and threw her over in that direction as hard as I could.

And so the sail grew and grew on the port side until I could see the black specks of men gathered along the rail to look at me, and I guess they must have been astonished to see a fishing-boat going stern foremost straight toward Java with a team of runaway kites. I thought they could catch me all right—a big, fast schooner like that in a strong wind. But the crew didn't make a move until we were about alongside of each other, the boat and the schooner. Why, they were so near I could see the men waiting all along the decks, and I thought I could hear the flapping of the sails, but I suppose I couldn't. I suppose they were a quarter of a mile away.

All at once someone gave an order on the schooner, and she came about slowly, her sails flapping as she turned.

It takes a good while for a schooner to turn round when she's going fast, and it worried me to see how far behind she got, while I kept racing ahead. But by and by she was fully turned, but instead of chasing right after me, as I supposed she would do, she bore off on the port track to the southeast, and in a few moments' time the darkness had shut her entirely from my sight.

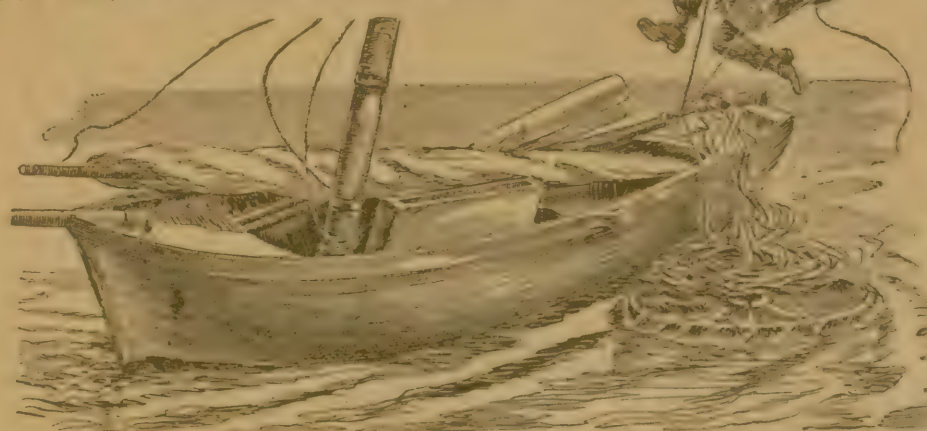
CHAPTER III.

When I saw the black schooner go off and leave me, I tell you I felt bad. I was so sure of being picked up that the disappointment was greater. Why they didn't pick me up I don't know for certain and never shall, but Captain Henderson, whom I met later on, told me that probably the schooner was manned by a crew of Dagos or natives of some kind. That they were superstitious, and seeing a boat going along stern first, the way the Alice Dunning was, and a string of kites flying around overhead, they thought I was some kind of a devil that they had better let alone. However, that may be, I didn't realize it at the time. I knew I felt just like a plain, everyday boy, and an awful lonesome one at that, all alone on that great ocean. Finally I realized that I was tired, and going forward in the cuddy, I crawled into one of the bunks, and covering myself with a blanket I found there, I was soon fast asleep.

I slept sound enough that night, and when I tumbled out of my bunk the sun was already high in the heavens. I ate my breakfast, and thought things over. There was nothing for me to do only to take things as easy as possible under the circumstances, and await my chance of being picked up. Another vessel surely would not go off and leave me.

The wind was fresh as the trade winds usually are, and always blowing in one direction. If it would only blow the other way! But I was being carried farther and farther away from

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 28.)



AND THEN I HAD JUST ONE LAST HOPE OF BEING CAUGHT AND PULLED IN AGAIN, FOR THE MOWING-MACHINE WHEEL, WITH THE BARBED WIRE, DRAGGED ALONG RIGHT CLOSE TO JIM DUNNING'S BOAT.

New Suit Offer!

Just send us your name and you will promptly receive the most astonishing—yes, wonderful suit offer, together with Paragon Complete Outfit, packed with big assortment of Cloth Samples, Tape Measures, Fashion Figures, Order Blank, etc.—all absolutely

FREE by Return Mail, Postpaid

This includes an offer on a fine suit for yourself so liberal it will startle you, and our Grand Offer to START YOU IN A BIG MONEY-MAKING BUSINESS FOR YOURSELF. Our wide-open terms, conditions and privileges will astonish you. The low prices we will make you on men's high-quality clothing will amaze you. And

WE Pay All Express Charges

We go the limit in liberality. We want you for our agent in your town. We can Turn All Our Business Over to You. We will start you in a big, established, money-making business.

New Agents Make \$40 a Week

Do you wonder that our agents make all kinds of money? We must have an agent in your town. Get our GRAND OFFER and the special PARAGON OUTFIT, which is already packed with big assortment of Cloth Samples and complete equipment, ready to be sent you free, charges paid by us. "First Come, First Served." Rush your answer to us quick if you want a suit for yourself, before someone else gets the prize.

PARAGON TAILORING COMPANY, Dept. 2, Chicago.

Instant Bunion Relief

Prove It At My Expense

Don't send me one cent—just let me prove it to you as I have done for 51,532 others in the last six months. I claim to have the most successful remedy for bunions ever made and I want you to let me send you a treatment FREE, entirely at my expense. I don't care how many so-called cures, or ointments or pads you ever tried without success—I don't care how disgusted you are with them all, you have not tried my remedy and I have such absolute confidence in it that I am going to send you a treatment absolutely FREE. It is a wonderful yet simple home remedy which relieves you almost instantly of the pain; it removes the cause of the bunion and thus the ugly deformity disappears—all this while you are wearing tighter shoes than ever. Just send your name and address and treatment will be sent you promptly in plain sealed envelope.

FOOT REMEDY CO.
3535 W. 26th St.
Chicago

FOUR PAIRS FREE

Large, full-sized, beautiful Curtains, 2½ yards long; elegant patterns; given away—all you have to do to earn these beautiful curtains is to write your name and address plainly, and send to us. We will then send you twelve boxes of our wonderful, fast-selling BLOOD TABLETS to sell at 25 cents each. When sold send us the \$3.00 collected, and we will send you at once these handsome Curtains by mail.

STANDARD REMEDY COMPANY
5 Cortlandt Street, Dept. 154 New York City

Only 40 Cents

Anti-Nicotine Calabash Pipe

THIS splendid Calabash is modeled on the lines of the original African Calabash Pipe. It is made of a clay-like material which absorbs the nicotine and uses it to color the pipe like the finest Meerschaum. You do not have to "break" the pipe. There are no fumes. It is always sweet, clean, dry. With German Silver mountings, 40 cents each, three for a dollar. Send prepaid with a copy of our fine catalog of smokers' articles. Send today. Money back if not satisfied. H. Menger, The Smoker's Friend, 256 Menger Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

FIT'S EPILEPSY OR FALLING SICKNESS

Why despair, if others have failed; send at once for a treatise and Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. I have made the disease of Fits, Epilepsy or Falling Sickness a life-long study, and warrant my remedy to give immediate and successful relief. I have hundreds of testimonials from those who have been cured. Give express to P. O. address: W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., New York

These FREE 4 RINGS

Send your name and address and we will send you 12 beautiful, full Gemstone Rings to sell at 10 cents each. All the rings in New York. When sold return us \$1.00 and we will send you four more. Send today. Money back if not satisfied. SCHNEIDER CO., 100 Orient St., Albany, N.Y.

Silver Plated Salt and Pepper Set.

Fitted with three Polished Glass Castors having non-corrosive tops. One for Salt, one for Pepper, the third for Cayenne, Celery Salt or other condiment, as preferred. Height 5½ inches, diameter of base 3½ inches. Made of highest grade white metal and Silver Plated, will wear almost forever and give entire satisfaction, which is superior to any other ten year guarantee. These three piece sets, or individual Castors are much in use, usually each member of the family has one, but even one or two for the whole family will be acceptable. Excellent for Christmas or wedding gifts.

Club Offer.

Send only six subscriptions to Comfort at 25c. each for 15 months for one of these Castors, carefully wrapped, packed and shipped at our expense. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

VETERINARY INFORMATION



Readers are invited to write to the department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name, and direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing us above.

PUFFS.—I have a mule three years old that has something like "wind galls" on her ankles. I think it is caused from a hard pull. The galls do not seem to hurt her. W. W. B.

A.—The so-called "wind puffs" or "galls" are filled with synovia (joint oil) and not with air. They are incurable and do no harm, but are a blemish. They may be temporarily reduced by bandaging overnight with cotton batting and bandages; or place flat corks over the puffs and then put on the bandage. They come from overstrain of the joints and tendons when animal is young.

LAMENESS.—I have a horse about ten years old weighing from nine to ten hundred and in good condition. Three years ago he went lame in his right hind foot, and I turned him out to pasture and finally I got well. Every summer since he will be lame a month or so. When he first starts out he can scarcely go at all but after he has gone a little ways it seems better, but he will favor it. I cannot see as it hurts him any worse to go down hill than to go up hill. When standing in barn or pasture he will rest it. As far as I can see the joint is all right. I work him on farm and drive him a good bit. Do you advise bleeding? Is there a certain time of the year that is best? What disease does it help?

A.—We suspect that the lameness is due to a bone spavin but cannot settle the matter without an examination. If a spavin is there it will be necessary to have the spavin and hock joint fired and blistered by a veterinarian and then allow six weeks' rest tied up short in stall. Bleeding is unnecessary and seldom done now days. It may, in a few instances, help if done at once in azoturia, founder, lymphangitis and staggers.

DIARRHEA.—I would like a remedy for a horse who has a bad case of looseness of the bowels. G. J.

A.—See that all food fed is sound and wholesome and that the drinking water is uncontaminated. Give the drinking water after feeding. Mix a pint of browned wheat flour in the food twice daily and if necessary add a teaspoonful of powdered alum once a day. If that does not prove effective mix together two parts powdered charcoal and one part each of subnitrate of bismuth, powdered catechu and ground ginger root and of this mix a tablespoonful in the food twice a day.

FREE MARTIN.—I have heard that a twin heifer calf will not breed. Is this so? Mrs. C. D.

A.—It is true that in a majority of instances a heifer calf born twin with a bull calf will not breed. There are exceptions to the rule and it is worth while keeping a heifer as she may prove fertile. Twin heifers are fertile. The term "free martin" is applied to the female calf born twin with a male and it usually is hermaphrodite.

COWPOX.—I have a young cow that was fresh last April. When her calf was about six weeks old a dark spot about the size of a dime came on the side of one of her teats near the end. In a day or two there was a red circle formed around the spot and it got sore. Now she has the same kind of spots on each teat and a fine breaking out in the red circle and is getting raw. G. C. M.

A.—Isolate the cow and milk her last as she has cowpox and it is spread from cow to cow by the milkmaid's hands. Wash the udder twice daily with a solution of half ounce of granular hypochlorite of soda in a quart of lukewarm water and paint the sores with glycerite of tannin as required.

GARGET.—I have a five-year-old cow that has something wrong with one fourth of her udder. She is a very heavy milker. Has a calf seven weeks old and giving about eight quarts of milk at time of milking. When calf was two weeks old we noticed that the hind part of udder was swollen and could not get much milk. The next morning the milk was lumpy and in a few days it was very thick and yellow. Then it seemed to be all right. It has been that way again three or four times not so bad, but has another spell at present, and the milk was almost clear at first. Her udder looks red as if inflamed, when it is first down. We bathe it in hot water and rub it and it soon goes down. The milk from the other teats seems all right. She is fat and is a very hearty eater. Mrs. C. S.

A.—Protect the udder against bruising and chilling in the stable and do not let her lie down out of doors. See that no sudden changes of food are made. At time of attack give two drams each of saltpetre and fluid extract of sassafras, or in feed if she will take it. Reduce the food at such times and see that it is laxative in nature. Foment udder with hot water three times a day and at night rub with melted lard applied hot.

COUGH.—I have a cow about ten years old. She seems to have a dry cough and is poor in flesh and has gone almost dry. D. H. P.

A.—In all probability the cow is far advanced with tuberculosis (bovine tuberculosis) and if that is so her milk is dangerous and unfit for use. Have her tested with tuberculin. Any graduate veterinarian can make the test. Meanwhile isolate the cow.

STAGGERS.—We have a mare about nineteen years old who is blind. About a year ago, while driving she suddenly began to stagger. Ever since that she has had spells of staggering which usually come on very soon after starting out from home. If allowed to stand a while will get over it. She eats heartily and is in good flesh. Mrs. M. J.

A.—Indigestion is the cause and in such cases it usually comes from overfeeding and especially from lack of exercise while overfed. Cut down the grain rations and add roots to the ration. Best to feed whole oats and bran, but some ears of corn can be allowed in cold weather. See that she is fully worked or exercised every day. She must not be allowed to stand a single day idle in the stable.

TUMORS.—We have thirteen head of cattle running together. Their feed is white clover, wild grass, corn chop, oilmeal and pond water. Last winter one seven-year-old cow and one four-year-old steer had lumps form on their jaws and throat; the cow on her jaws just below her ears on both sides, the steer on his jaws throat. The cow wore a forked yoke in the summer for three years. We opened them and they run. We put blue vitriol in the openings. They are not as large as they were but still there. This fall there is a three-year-old heifer that has a lump the same as the cow only on the right side, though as large as a pint bowl. A coming three-year-old heifer (a calf of the cow) has several the size of walnuts all along the right side of her face. One coming two-year-old bull has one on the right side of his face that reaches from the back of his jaw to his mouth, that sticks out a good three inches and looks like a ruptured blood vessel and a coming four-year-old cow is just taking the same disease. Her jaws seem a little stiff. We use the milk from two of the cows with a separator. They are all in good condition. E. L. W.

A.—In such a serious case as this no time should be lost in having the affected animals examined by a graduate veterinarian. It may be that they have lump jaw (actinomycosis) and many cases of that disease are curable by operation and internal use of iodine of potassium. It seems likely however that some of the animals have tuberculosis and that is incurable. To make sure each of the animals should be tested with tuberculin.

COUGH.—I have two dogs; one is a small Rat Terrier, the other is a part Dane and Shepherd. The latter one began to cough one day after we came home from the river and has coughed ever since. He tries to spit up every once in a while. He wants to drink often and to be outdoors, which he never did until he got this cough. The large dog has taken to coughing within the last few days. They both eat well and seem to be all right. Mrs. N. S.

A.—The dogs cough on account of having caught cold and developed bronchitis. Give them glyco-heroin in teaspoonful doses as required and increase the dose if necessary. Keep them out of wet and damp.

PRURITIS.—I have a horse in good flesh that has what the veterinary here calls eczema. The horse has a tendency to rub and bite, and at times the hair seems to come out. W. W. B.

A.—Clip the horse and wash affected parts with a 1-100 solution of coal tar dip. Repeat as found necessary. Cut the grain ration in half if you are feeding heavily and either work the horse every day or abundantly exercise him out of doors. Carrots would be good for him. See to it that chicken lice cannot get onto the horse. They often are the cause of such troubles.

INDIGESTION.—My hogs start with something like the blind staggers. They commence to jerk or tremble all over and keep going around and around and hold their heads at one side as if someone was going to hit them on the head. They seem to be totally blind, as they run into fences and anything else that comes in their way. In feeding them they act as if they could not get their jaws open. We had fed them a few times some sloop which we got at a nearby hotel and the last time we fed them there was a great deal of corn husks in the sloop and also chicken feathers which the hogs ate. We examined the intestines and found feather balls about four inches long in them. There was no inflammation of any kind. The bladder seemed to be full of urine but it was not large enough to do any harm. We drenched one hog with salt and water a few days before it died and it seemed to get better for a day and then it got worse. Mrs. R. A. W.

A.—The symptoms indicate acute indigestion and possibly gastritis or enteritis. The food may be suspected as the source of the trouble and soap powders often found in such sloop would be sufficient to produce the symptoms and cause death. Enteritis has often been caused in this way and it therefore is a dangerous practice to feed hotel and restaurant sloop to hogs, unless it is known to be free from soap powders. Fermenting sloop may have about the same effect.

FITS.—I have two pigs that eat all right but they just jump and fall about like that or drunk or else it is St. Vitus Dance. They are just as lively as can be. Mrs. W. C. M.

A.—Overfeeding and lack of exercise is the common cause of such convulsions or fits. Turn the pigs out on grass and feed lightly of sloop and allow green stuff and water freely each day. Give the pigs a physic of epsom salts or raw linseed oil in their sloop to start treatment.

FITS.—I have two kittens who seem to have something like fits. They take running spells and run in thing like fits. They take out of the grape arbor and hit their head on the brick walk and the other fell out of a high tree and fell on the edge of a tub. B. M.

A.—Worms are the likely cause. Treat as directed for worms of cats in recent issues of the paper; but lessen the doses according to size and age of kittens.

CATARH.—I have a Beagle hound about three and a half years old which contracted cataract during last winter. Matter has collected in the eye and the coat which lines the eyeball is red and swollen. Whenever he runs he is seized with a fit of sneezing. L. E. W.

A.—Wash the eyes twice daily with a ten per cent. solution of boric acid and each other day drop in a few drops of a two per cent. solution of argemol. Let dog live an outdoor life to make him robust. A deservit spoonful of emulsion of cod liver oil given once daily would prove helpful.

DIFFICULT MILKING.—My father has a very fine two-year-old cow that is very hard to milk. She is gentle and hearty. Can anything be done to make the milk flow? C. A. R.

A.—The difficulty may be due to growths in the ducts at the ends of the teats. If that is so the condition may be remedied by use of dilators or treat plugs, the test history, or removal of the growths by operation. Better employ an expert.

SWELLINGS.—I have a mare six years old in good condition and since January last her neck has been badly swollen, from back of head to top of shoulder blade. She has had a cold since June 1st, and the neck got much larger after that, also similar swellings appeared on abdomen. Have not worked her any. She runs on range with her colt. Mrs. A. B.

A.—Without an examination we are unable to decide what is the matter, but as the symptoms are somewhat suggestive of a quail it would be well to have her examined by a qualified veterinarian. If simple abscesses are present, as in fistule of the poll or withers, he will open them, use injections of antiseptic solutions and give hypodermic injections of autogenic or polyvalent bacterin.

FISTULA.—I have a nine-year-old horse that has had a fistula eighteen months. I opened it last March and took out all the pus, and left a cavity as large as a gallon bucket. It has nearly healed up, yet yellow matter still forms. C. L. D.

A.—Clip off the hair, inject tincture of iodine each other day and blister the entire enlargement twice a month with cerate of cantharides.

GARGET.—I have a Jersey cow which I bought shortly after she was fresh. After I had her two days noticed half of the hind part of her udder was swollen as hard as a stone. She then gave curdled and stringy milk out of it. It disappeared after a day or so; every three or four days it appears again curdled and stringy milk. I have the calf away from her; she does not give very much milk for a fresh cow, but it is very rich.

A.—A tuberculous of the udder often is indicated by symptoms such as you describe have the cow tested with tuberculin and until that has been done do not use her milk. If she proves to be free from tuberculosis better fatten her for slaughter or sell her for immediate slaughter as it rarely pays to fuss with such a case of chronic garget (mammitis).

FITS.—I have a Bull dog, about nine months old. He has mange and fits when he runs. E. S.

A.—Feed one meal a day and make the dog live an outdoor life. At time of attack give twenty grains of bromide of potash and repeat in twenty minutes if found necessary. Dip in a 1-100 solution of coal tar dip once a week and rub it in with a hard brush. When dry apply sulphur ointment three times a week to all affected parts.

QUARTER CRACK.—We have a mule four years old that has a crack in his hoof. It starts at the top of his hoof and runs down about an inch. It will open and shut when he walks. He doesn't lim much yet. What can be done for him? Mrs. R. L. W.

A.—Have the blacksmith clench the crack shut with a small horseshoe nail properly sharpened and curved; then burn a deep line across the crack at the juncture of the hair and hoof. Afterward clip off the hair from coronet and blister twice a month with cerate of cantharides until new, sound horn grows down.

POLL EVIL.—Can you give cure for poll evil? F. Z.

A.—It is necessary to give a description of the exact condition present before we can prescribe treatment. In most cases of poll evil it is necessary to operate and that requires a skilled surgeon. The modern surgeon also treats these cases by hypodermic use of autogenic or polyvalent bacterin. It therefore would be best to employ a graduate veterinarian.

PUNCTURED HOOF.—I have a mule that has been lame in her hind feet for almost a year. Could not locate the trouble till recently, when I found a small hole in the point of her hoof, large enough to admit a small wire with which I probed to the depth of perhaps an inch and a half. The lameness seems to have increased since then. The hoof is not cracked or split, and no swelling about the foot. G. T. C.

A.—Probing should not be done in such cases as it is apt to aggravate the condition, or pierce the synovia bursa. Pare away all loose and under-rim horn of sole and swab parts exposed with a saturated solution of carbolic acid. Then cover wound with a mixture of equal parts of calomel and boric acid, cotton batting and a bandage. Renew the dressing once daily until sound.

BLOODY MILK.—I have a cow and after the milk stands and in bottom of vessel a small amount of blood. The cow seems to be in good health, eats heartily and is with calf. This is the first time blood has been found in milk. Feed on corn fodder on the stalk. W. S. E.

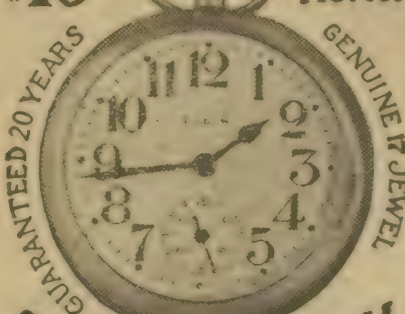
A.—Keep a separate sample from each quarter to determine which one is affected. When this is known bathe that quarter with cold water three times a day and at night with alum water. As she is in calf strong medicine cannot safely be mixed in the feed; otherwise she should have a dram of dried sulphate of iron twice daily. Avoid all causes of bruising and milk her gently.

INDIGESTION.—I have a horse, thirteen years old. Until the age of eight he was in good flesh. Since that time it has been impossible to keep him in good condition. He is continually lean, regardless of the amount and kind of food. He has an extremely good appetite, eats twice as much as the ordinary horse, and seems to digest his food. He occasionally passes small worms. His stomach and intestines seem

ELGIN

WATCHES ON CREDIT!

\$16.50 \$2.00 MONTH



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

A Beautiful 20-Year Gold Filled Case Complete With Fine 17-Jewel Elgin, Sent on Approval.

FREE CATALOG

It's America's Finest Illustrated Watch, Diamond and Jewelry Book. It tells all about Elgin's famous Elgin. It gives you the Rock-Bottom price on every Elgin Watchmade. It quotes you the lowest prices on fine diamonds and illustrates for you all the latest things in Solid Gold Jewelry. "FACTS vs. BUNCE" for All About the Watch Business, Both at Home and Abroad, is the title of a new book by our Mr. Harris. A FREE COPY is sent with every catalog, and as we are the largest dealers in the world in Elgin Watches and the sole factory representatives of the LADY ELGIN SEWING MACHINE, this will interest you. Just your name and address will do.

HARRIS-GOAR JEWELRY CO.
DEPT. 306, KANSAS CITY, MO.

to be continually filled with gas. I have thought

he was afflicted with a tape worm. W. J. F.

A.—Have him clipped and the teeth attended to by a veterinary dentist. Cut the grain ration in half and even give less food than that if gas continues present. In feed night and morning mix a tablespoonful of a mixture of two parts of powdered wood charcoal and one part each of granular hypochlorite of soda and powdered hydrastis canadensis. Allow free access to rock salt. Do not feed ground feed. Let him live on whole oats, wheat bran and best of hay. Allow "drinking water before meals. Do not let him stand a single day idle in the stable.

CASH for FURS!

You get the highest prices and the quickest returns when you ship your furs to Funsten. We receive and sell more furs direct from trapping sections than any house in the world. The biggest American and foreign buyers are represented at our regular sales. The fierce competition among buyers enables us to get higher prices than anyone else. That's why we can send you the most money for your furs, and send it quicker. Trappers' outfits furnished at cost.

Big Money in Trapping

While work is slack, do some trapping. It pays big. Use Funsten Animal Baits. \$1.00 per can. Guaranteed to increase your catch, or your money refunded.

Traps Furnished at Factory Prices

Write today for Catalog E, New Trapper's Guide, Game Laws, Fur Market Reports and Shipping Tags. ALL SENT FREE.

Funsten Bros. & Co., 260 Elm St., St. Louis, Mo.

POST CARD BARGAINS

10 Christmas Cards - 10c 10 New Year Cards - 10c
10 Birthday Cards - 10c 10 General Subjects - 10c
3 Christmas Letters - 10c 4 Christmas Booklets - 10c
Any three 10-cent packages for 25c
100 Colorado View Cards - 10c 100 Christmas Cards - 80c
100 General Assortment 75c All sent postage paid.
Capper Post Card Co., Dept. 120, Topeka, Kan.

BRACELET AND RING FREE

This Beautiful Adjustable Bracelet has large diamond set, set with 5 sparkling imitation diamonds. Heavily plated. Guaranteed 5 YEARS. We give Bracelet and ring free for the purchase of \$1.00 worth of watches. Send for selling list. Paper. Anti-Rust Oil. Satisfaction Guaranteed. GATES MFG. CO., Dept. 601, CHICAGO

BOYS VIOLIN FREE!

We give the fine sweet toned violin, good white bone parts, and a set of 100 records of the most popular music. Write for FREE VIOLIN and 100 records today. Satisfaction guaranteed. ALTON WATCH & MFG. CO., Dept. 1434 Chicago, Ill.

Free Picture

Beautiful Enamelled Motives suitable for framing, 12x16 inches, with appropriate texts to hang in every room in the house. Lovely Floral Designs in their natural colors on an enameled background, often sold at stores for \$1. We will mail you one Free for 2c. to cover mailing. C. A. BIEL
Dep. 1202, DENVER, COL.

Gleason's Horse Book

Gleason's Horse Book a large handsome book of 400 pages, printed on pure white paper in large clear type, bound in colored covers and richly and elegantly illustrated with 185 full plates and illustrations drawn by special artists. It is the most complete horse book ever published.

produced under the direction of the United States Surgeon. In this book Prof. Gleason has given to the world for the first time his wonderful store of training and treating horses. It contains chapters on History, Education, Teaching Tricks, How to Buy, Feeding, Breeding, Breaking and Taming, How to Detect Unsoundness, Care, complete instruction on proper Horse Shoeing and an invaluable Study of the Diseases and Treatment of the animal. This one part alone is worth many times the value of the book and will save horse owners hundreds of dollars every year. To our new readers interested in Horses and Cattle, if you will get up a club of two to five months subscribers to COMFORT, at 25 cents each, we will send you one of the above described books free.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

BUCKINGHAM'S DYE

Don't like your gray mustache? Then make it a rich brown or black. Use

If your druggist cannot supply you, send 50 cents to B. P. HALL & CO., Nashua, N. H.

5-ADAY-EASY

(Many make double) spare time or all time, as agent for our perfect-fitting, stylish made-to-measure clothes. No money or experience required. We furnish fine samples and outfit free and explain everything. You can't fail. Our samples, new up-to-date styles and low prices will surprise everybody; orders come easy. Every man your customer season after season. High class, dignified, permanent business, a wonderful money-maker. We take all the risk, ship on approval, express prepaid, absolutely guaranteed fit and satisfaction. Write quick for free outfit, before we fill your territory, and let us make you a beautiful suit at a special inside wholesale price as a sample. If you don't want this great offer, please show it to some bright man who would appreciate it, for it's a marvelous opportunity. Write now. Address

Banner Tailoring Co. 297. Chicago

TRAPPERS GET BUSY BIG MONEY IN FURS

Over ten million dollars will be paid to trappers for fur-bearing animals during the coming winter. Any man or boy living in the country can add a goodly sum to his earnings by trapping during spare moments. We furnish a **FREE** complete Trapper's Guide which tells you the size of trap and kind of bait to use for the different animals, how to remove the skins and prepare them for market. We also furnish the best traps and baits at lowest prices. We receive more furs direct from trapping grounds than any other house in the world, therefore can pay the highest prices for them. Our price lists, shipping tags, etc., are also **FREE** for the asking. If you are a trapper or want to become one, write to us today. We will help you.

F. C. TAYLOR & CO.
GREATEST FUR HOUSE IN THE WORLD
685 Fur Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo.

THIS THIN MODEL YEAR WATCH \$3.75

Swiss hunting case beautifully engraved, gold finished throughout, stem wind and set, fitted with 7 jeweled American made lever movement, guaranteed 20 years with long gold finished chain for ladies, vest chain or fob for gents.

\$3.75

20 Year Guarantee. DO NOT BUY UNTIL YOU SEE IT. Let us send it C.O.D. for examination at your nearest express office, and if you think a bargain and equal in appearance to any other gold finished watch pay the express agent our express receipt or \$3.75. Money if not satisfied. Mailed or R.O.D. via MUTUAL SALES CO., 420, Washington Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

ASTHMA CURED TO STAY CURED

No relapse. No return of choking spells or other asthmatic symptoms. Whetzel system of treatment approved by best U.S. medical authorities as the only system known to permanently cure the disease. Including medicines, prepared for anyone giving a full description of the case and sending names of 2 asthmatic sufferers. Address **FRANK WHETZEL, M.D.** Dept. L, American Express Building, Chicago.

I TEACH Penmanship BY MAIL

I won the **WORLD'S FIRST PRIZE** for best course in Penmanship. Under my guidance many are becoming expert penmen. Am placing many of my students as instructors in commercial colleges at high salaries. If you wish to become a better penman, write me. I will send you **FREE** one of my favorite pens and a copy of the Penmanship Journal.

C. W. RANSOM, 335 Minor Building Kansas City, Mo.

GOLD SIGNET RING FREE

Send your name and address for 12 packages of finest silk and gold Post Cards to distribute at 10 cts. each. Return us the \$1.20 when collected and we send you this beautiful Signet Ring, warranted heavy gold finish, very stylish, not the cheap kind. **SIGNET RING CO., Dept. 15 TOPEKA, KANSAS.**

GREAT MONEY MAKER FOR AGENTS

Sell Magnetic Combs and get rich; agents wild with success. They remove dandruff; stop falling hairs; **RELIEVE HEADACHE, never break. Send 2c stamp for sample. PROF. LONG, 917 Ash St., PEKIN, ILL.**

20 Christmas Post Cards 10c

Very Choicest Gold Embossed

Lovely assortment of 20 Artistic Christmas, New Year, and Birthday Cards in exquisite colors and Household Magazine 3 months all for only 10 cts. **J. H. Seymour, 139 W. Eighth St., Topeka, Kan.**

LOTS OF FUN FOR A DIME

Ventriloquists Double Throat. File roof of mouth; always in ridges; greatest thing yet. Astute and mystify your friends. Watch like a horse; whine like a puppy; sing like a canary and imitate birds and voices of field and forest. **LOADS OF FUN.** Wonderful invention. These cards will. Price 10c each. 1 for 25 cents or 12 for 50 cents. **DOUBLE THROAT CO. DEPT. FRENCHTOWN, N.J.**

Print Your Own

Cards, circulars, books, newspaper. Press \$5. Larger \$15. Rotary \$50. Save money. Big profit printing for others. All easy, rules sent. Write factory for press catalog, TYPE, cards, paper, &c. **THE PRESS CO., MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.**

TEN BOOKS FOR 10 CENTS

1-Big Joke Book. 2-Book on Magic. 3-Book on Toy Making. 4-Book on Contraption. 5-Book on Book. 6-Dream Book & Fortune Teller. 7-White Slave Story. 8-Book & Cook Book. 9-Hill me Entertainment. 10-Book Letter Writer. All the above by mail for 10 cents. Address: **PIKE PUB. CO., 1, South Norwalk, Conn.**

VIOLIN, also Guitar, Cornet and good Mandolin for sale cheap. Could sell separately and send on trial. Write to **MISS BERTHA C. MARDIS, Route 5, Rosedale, Kansas.**

CARDS

Send 2c Stamp for large Sample Album of 1000. Can Name, 500 Prizes, Envelopes, Friendship, Joke, Love, and all other kinds of Cards, Photo and Postcard. Send Best Catalog and list of 5000. Send 2c Free. **OHIO CARD CO., 84 Cedar, Ohio.**

Asthma

REMEDY sent to you **FREE TRIAL**. If it cures, send \$1.00; if not, don't. Write express office. National Chemical Company, 874 Ohio Ave., Chicago, Ohio.

YOU Can Write a Short Story. Beginners learn thoroughly under our perfect method; many sell their stories before completing the course. We also help those who want to sell their stories. Write for particulars. **School Short-Story Writing, Dept. 12, Page 100, Chicago.**

A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

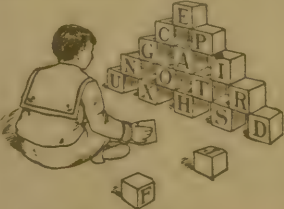
TO the majority of thinking people this is the most important month of the year. It is the anniversary month of the birth of Christ. A little infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger changed everything. He taught men how to live a perfect life and lived it himself to prove that it could be done. You boys will hear again the story that has never grown old and your heart will swell with joy and you will feel like helping, giving, relieving, strengthening your fellowman. That is the Christmas spirit, encourage it, give it expression.

How Toys Are Made

Most of the ingenious toys are made in Germany. There, labor is cheap and the people seem to have a genius for such things. The material used for a large percentage of the toys is scrap tin which comes from the large tin can factories. In the state of Washington where the salmon canneries are huge piles of tin scrap accumulate. Up to a few years ago this stuff was absolutely worthless and was used chiefly to fill up holes. Now it is baled and sent to Germany in shiploads and returns in the form of gaily decorated toys, flying machines, steamboats and automobiles. It seems to me that we Americans ought to be smart enough to make our own toys without sending the material to Germany and paying them to do it.

Star Gazing

If you look intently at a bright star the color and intensity of the light will seem to change from brilliancy to almost total obscurity, and will merge from bright red to blue, orange, yellow and white.



BUILDING BLOCK PUZZLE.

It is probably due to defects in human vision or to the belt of air that surrounds the earth. There is always motion in the air and it is safe to infer that clouds, or vapor or dust will obstruct a view bent in one direction for any length of time.

Building Block Puzzle

If you look closely at the blocks you will note that by following along certain blocks that touch each other you will be able to spell out the names of animals. I can get seven animals in this way and think perhaps you will be able to get one or two more. Remember you may start any place but your next letter must be on a block that touched the one you begin with.

Shoestring Fob

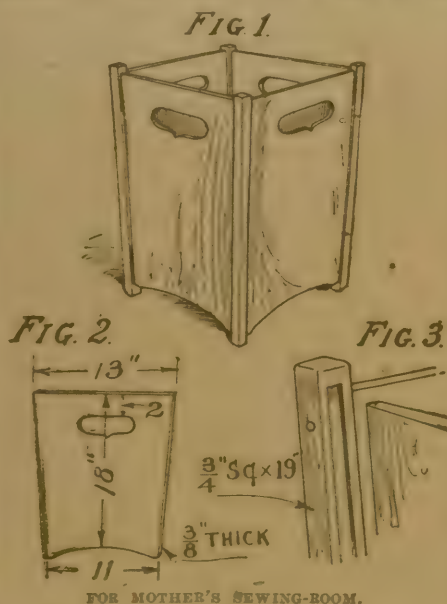
Here is a neat watch fob that you can make out of shoelaces. Ten strands are used, five being on one side and five on the other, at the beginning. If you have the extra length laces five will do and you can begin the plaiting in the middle of them as shown in Fig. 2. Lay the work flat on the table and keep the strands pulled tight. Begin by pulling one down at a forty-five degree slant to the right, from the other side pull one to the left, laying it over the first, then one to the right again, putting it under and over and so on alternately until you have woven a ribbon about four inches long. Place a ring in the center strands and lay back the edges, stitching them neatly on the reverse side. The bar and ring at the top are also sewed in. This fob is novel and lasting. It may be made more attractive by using alternate colors, brown and white.



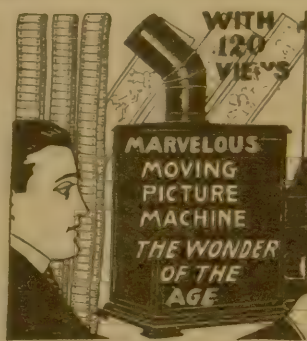
EASY TO MAKE.

A Waste Basket

The boy artisan will find in this plan ample exercise for his skill. It is a design that beginners can tackle without fear of having to give up when they get half through, and yet too much pains cannot be taken in working it out. The posts may be from three quarters to one and one half inches square. Two long grooves, a quarter inch deep must be cut in each one and

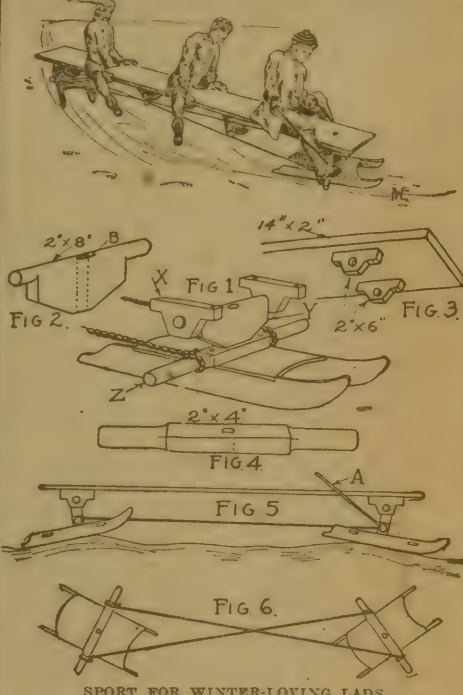


FOR MOTHER'S SEWING-ROOM.



A New Bob Sled

I do not think there is any winter sport that compares with the old-fashioned coasting game. In many parts of the country it is indulged in by men and women as well as children and I confess to you that if I could get away off where no one was looking I could enjoy myself on a good hill for hours. In every part of the world where snow abounds for any season of the year coasting is the chief sport. In my library I have



SPORT FOR WINTER-LOVING LADS.

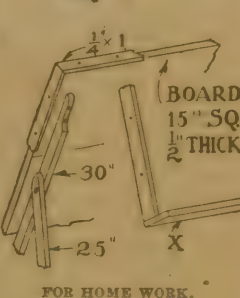
many books and hundreds of clippings that treat of coasting. Each country has a type of sleigh peculiar to itself but I can see no great difference in any of them. It is quite a feat to develop anything new in the sled line and I feel, that in this steering arrangement, I have given you the very last word in coasters.

The make-up of the sled itself is an improvement on the common type. The new part is the rocking device. Under each end of the running plank screw two blocks as Fig. 3 clearly shows. On top of each small sled fasten the blocks and crosspieces shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 2 and 4 illustrate these parts separated from the rest. The steering arrangement consists of ropes that cross each other under the plank in the form of an "X." Fig. 6 makes it all so plain that I do not feel any explanation is necessary. In the matter of taking sharp turns you will find this coaster a great improvement over the usual kind. The top sketch will indicate how this works out. If you pull on the left rope it will turn the fore sled to the left and the rear one to the right. If you do most of your coasting on one particular hill as most boys do you can set your ropes just right by experimenting a little.

The rocking arrangement enables you to take small hills without a severe bumping. Fig. 5 makes this point clear.

A Blackboard

Here is a suggestion for an acceptable gift. Saw off two fifteen-inch lengths of eight-inch pine board and glue them together. To do this you must fit two edges flush and note the points that do not touch, marking with a pencil. Now lightly plane off the marked spots and rub them a little with sandpaper. After a few trials you will have the edges fitting nicely and ready for gluing.



FOR HOME WORK.

or three coats of dull black paint finishes the job. Now you need not be at a loss to know what to give your little cousin for a Christmas or birthday present.

A Magic Light

Here is a way to make a safe and efficient pocket lamp that will last about six months and mystify your friends. Have your druggist put into a small pill bottle a piece of phosphorus about the size of a pea. Now fill the bottle one third full of olive oil that has been heated for fifteen minutes but not boiled. Cock tightly and the upper and empty part of the bottle will soon be lighted up sufficiently to cast a luminous circle of about ten feet. After six months the light will begin to get dim but may be renewed by simply taking off the cork to admit a little air. Lamps of this type are used by watchmen in powder magazines. Phosphorus is a poison and you should not handle it at all after it is once inside the bottle.

Answer to Last Month's Puzzle

The words are given in the same order that they were asked for. 4-7-6 Isadore, 6-7 Dora, 2-3

BOYS Give Shows! GIRLS Make Money!

We Give A Wonderful MOVING PICTURE MACHINE - 120 Views and other 200 PRESENTS FREE

To Boys and Girls who sell our 'New Gold-Eye' Needles at only 5 cents a paper. EASY TO SELL. Send us 100 needles and we will send you a new Gold-Eye Machine. Your neighbors will buy it for you.

WE TRUST YOU!

Write to us today - extra price for quick work. Big Cash commission if you prefer. **Waverly Supply Company, Box 342, Macomb, Pa.**



peril, 22-15 tear, 17-10 near, 20-11 case, 25-2 spear, 16-15 Mattie, 20-4-25 kiss, 25-24-15-20 sneak, 14-11 lace, 10-11 erase, 22-1 tape, 7-2-14 apparel, 1-2-15-17-22 apparent.

The first perpendicular row spells the word Adams, the second "paint," the fifth "leeks." The horizontal rows spell April, dance, aisle and the last one stuns.

December Nuts to Crack

1. How many pounds of sugar at 5 cents, and at 9 cents a pound, must be mixed to make a box of 100 pounds, at 6 cents a pound?
2. A man spent one quarter of his money and then received \$5. He then spent one half of all that he had, and found that he had only \$7 remaining; how much had he at first?
3. A drover being asked how many sheep he had replied, "If they stand in a row there will be two sheep in front of a sheep, two sheep behind a sheep and one sheep in the middle." How many had he?

November Answers

1. Sheep cost \$10, cow \$20, horse cost \$40.
 2. \$12. 3. For candy 9 cents, for gum 1 cent.
- Two of the questions published each month are for the boy of average ability to solve, the last one is a catch question, which is very clear if you go at it right. You can puzzle your friends with them after you get the answers in next month's Boys' Corner. If you do not agree that the published answers are right send stamped, addressed envelope and I will inclose full solutions.

You will surely have plenty of time during the Christmas vacation to make some of the articles described. Do your work carefully and make every part perfect before you take the next. A well-made thing will last you for years and give good service while a toy hurried together in a slipshod manner will never work right. How do you like the puzzles? I am going to use a different kind next month and hope you will see to it that your subscription is paid up so you will not miss even a single number of COMFORT.

UNCLE JOHN.

Herbs and Flowers Cure Catarrh

A Safe, Simple, Reliable Remedy Which Costs Nothing to Try.

You need not suffer from catarrh, bronchitis, lingering colds or other catarrhal troubles. After years of research and experiment Dr. Blosser discovered a compound of herbs, leaves and flowers which by a unique method is applied to every nook and corner of the mucous membrane in the head, nose, throat and lungs.

Any sufferer, after giving it a trial, can readily see why it is so greatly superior to such ordinary treatments as sprays, ointments, salves, liquid or tablet medicines, because all these do not and cannot reach all the affected parts, while Dr. Blosser's method reaches every spot; and this explains, at least in part, the wonderful success with which it is meeting. The full size package costs but one dollar. It is harmless, pleasant to use, and is easily applied even by a child.

No matter how deep-seated your catarrh may be; no matter how long it has troubled you; no matter if other remedies have failed; you should give this treatment a trial, and it will do for you what it has done for thousands of other sufferers. Write at once to Dr. J. W. Blosser, 439 Walton street, Atlanta, Ga., in order to avail yourself of his offer of a free trial package of the remedy and an illustrated booklet which gives all the facts about catarrh. It is not necessary to send any money—simply send your name and address.

12 POST CARDS FREE

We will send you 12 of the prettiest post cards you ever saw if you will cut this advertisement out and send it to us with 4c to pay postage and mailing and say that you will show them to 6 of your friends. **D-14 New Ideas Card Co., 233 S. 5th St., Phila., Pa.**

FREE GOLD PLATED RING absolutely Free if you will send us the names of five of your neighbors and 10 cents to pay postage, etc. **GEM CITY SUPPLY CO., Quincy, Illinois**

FITS I have cured cases of 30 years' standing. Trial package free by mail. **Dr. S. PERRY, 1212 Park St., Chicago, Ill.**

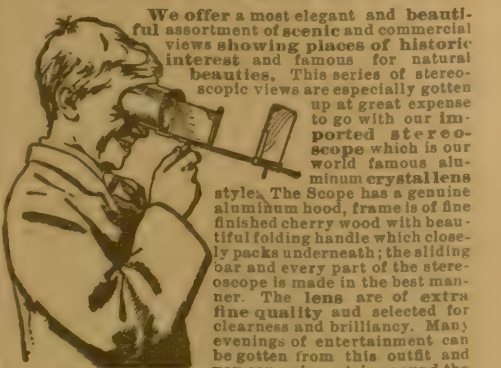
GOLD Shell Spectacles \$1 a Pair Send for catalog. Agents wanted. **Coulter Optical Co., Chicago, Ill.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S BOOKS

Poems, Cloth bound, 50 cents. Song Book, 30 cents. Address, **UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine**

A Stereoscope FREE and 50 Views FREE

Scenes from All Parts of the World



We offer a most elegant and beautiful assortment of scenic and commercial views showing places of historic interest and famous for natural beauties. This series of stereoscopic views are especially gotten up at great expense to go with our imported stereoscope which is our world famous aluminum crystalline style. The Scope has a genuine aluminum hood, frame is of fine finished cherry wood with beautiful folding handles which close tightly packs underneath; the sliding bar and every part of the stereoscope is made in the best manner. The lens are of extra fine quality and selected for clearness and brilliancy. Many evenings of entertainment can be gotten from this outfit and you can enjoy a trip around the world by having a stereoscope and set of views in the home. We have just gotten a large number of these to give our club workers a chance to secure this choice assortment on very favorable terms.

Club Offer. For a club of three 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send the complete outfit consisting of Stereoscope and fifty views all securely packed sent post-paid without any cost to you whatever. Do not fail to send at once for this premium so that not only yourself but your friends can enjoy it.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Makes repairs neat

and quick. Mends harness, shoes, canvas. Myers' Sewing Awl makes Lock Stitches. \$1 prepaid. Big money for agents. C. A. MYERS CO., 634 Lexington Ave., Chicago, Ill.

\$25 WEEKLY and expenses to men and women to collect names, distribute samples and advertise. Steady work. C. H. EMERY, M.R. CHICAGO, ILL.

\$80 In C. S. A. money sent to any address for \$1. Will give \$50 to any one who can detect it. FRANK O. SHILLING, Navarre, Ohio.

10,000 MEN WANTED

For Government jobs. Write for list of positions open. Franklin Institute, Dept. P 12 Rochester, N. Y.

White Valley Gem Book FREE

Send for it. See gem before paying a cent. So like the real diamond that experts can scarcely tell difference. Stands diamond tests. White Valley Gem Co., 1752 N. LaSalle, Indianapolis, Ind.

JOIN OUR POST CARD CLUB and receive hundreds of beautiful post cards free. Thousands of members. You get cards from all over the world. We send 40 elegant cards and album free. You get 10 samples of most beautiful gold and embossed cards free if you join at once. Don't wait. **FREE CARDS** Send 10c, stamps or silver, to Capital Post Card Club, Dept. G, Topka, Kan.

How to Entertain Book with 250 Jokes and Riddles, 73 Toasts, 67 Parlor Tricks, 8 Fortune-telling Secrets, 52 Money-Making Secrets, 22 Funny Headings, All 400 Postcards. J. G. DORN, 709 So. Dearborn St., Dept. 24, Chicago, Ill.

WATCH CHAIN FREE FOR SELF-STARTING. We positively give FREE a STEM WIND, STEM SET, BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED, PLATED WATCH, equal in appearance to \$100.00 watch. American made, guaranteed 5 years and a beautiful 14K gold chain with an 18K diamond, for setting only 25c. Package of beautiful high grade art postcards at 10c a package. Order 20 packages and we will send you \$2.00, and we will positively send you \$10.00. WILLARD WATCH CO., Dept. 1253 CHICAGO

Needham's Extract Red Clover A great Blood Purifier and regulator of the bowels. Pure blood means perfect health. Get well and stay well by using Pure Clover Extract. Let us send you free booklet giving experiences of people who have used Needham's Extract for Rheumatism, Gout, Kidney, Constipation, Whooping Cough, etc. Druggists sell it or can get it for you. Send for booklet today. Address D. NEEDHAM'S, 61 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago

Moving Picture Machine Free FOR SELLING ONLY 24 PACKAGES REAL WATER COLOR AND MAS POST CARDS at the post package. Regular price \$100. This marvelous machine shows pictures in motion and is the most popular machine used in theatres. With this machine you can entertain your friends and even make money giving exhibitions. **SEND NO MONEY.** We will ship the machine and the pictures to you today. When sold, send us \$2.40 and complete Moving Picture Machine with pictures. Satisfaction Guaranteed. ALTON WATCH & MOSE CO., DEPT. 868 CHICAGO, ILL.

WONDER LAMP

The United Factories of 643 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, Mo., is making an offer to send a Wonder Lamp which fits **FREE** your old lamp free to one person in each locality in the U. S. who will show and recommend this marvelous new incandescent 100 candle power oil lamp burner. Simply send your name and address for their offer.

Let Us Send You a Genuine Edison Phonograph On FREE TRIAL

right to your own home without a cent from you. No C. O. D. No obligations. Send it back at our expense if you don't want to keep it. \$2.00 a month now pays for a genuine Edison Phonograph at \$20.00. Bottom prices and without even interest on monthly payments. Send today for our beautiful Free Edison Catalog. A postal will do, but send at once. F. K. RABSON, Edison Phonograph Distrib., Suite 304B, Edison Block, Chicago, Ill.

DR. MOLL, Graduate physician of 30 years practice. Several years member Massachusetts Medical Society. Practising physician, Cambridge, Mass., over 20 years.

DR. MOLL'S Blood and Nerve Tonic Pills. The most successful combination to enrich the blood, stimulate the appetite and give vigor and energy to the entire system.

DR. MOLL'S Anti-Bilious and Purgative Pills. The best remedy for the stomach, the liver and to regulate the bowels.

The result of special study, 30 years of success. Reliable, scientific preparations. Approved and recommended by leading physicians. Testimonials on request. Send for circulars. Price: Tonic Pills 50 cents. Anti-Bilious and Purgative Pills: 10 and 25 cents. Sent to any address on receipt of price. Correspondence answered free. Address DR. MOLL, 830 Somerville Avenue, Cambridge, Mass.

MOTHERS Are Your Children Troubled with Weak Kidneys? If so our harmless remedy will cure them. 50c package **FREE**. C. H. ROWAN DRUG CO., Dept. 17, 53 River St., Chicago, Ill.

PILES Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Boon to Sufferers. Act like Magic. Trial box **MAILED FREE**. Address Dr. E. M. Botot, Box 709, Augusta, Maine.

ECZEMA

CAN BE CURED. My mild, soothing, guaranteed cure does it and **FREE** SAMPLE proves it. **STOPS THE ITCHING** and cures to stay. Write NOW—TODAY. DR. CANNADAY, 106 Park Square, Sedalia, Mo.

MORPHINE FREE TRIAL TREATMENT

Opium and all drug habits. Hundreds of testimonials prove that our painless home remedy restores the nervous and physical system and removes the cause. A full trial treatment alone often cures. Write us in confidence. ST. PAUL ASSOCIATION, Suite 432—21 E. Van Buren St., Chicago

Perfect Salve for Sores

Allen's Ulcerine Salve relieves at once, and finally abolishes Chronic Ulcers, Bone Ulcers, Varicose Ulcers, Indolent Ulcers, Mercurial Ulcers, White Swelling, Milk Leg, Fever Sores and all sores of a painful and poisonous nature. We have thousands of enthusiastic letters from grateful users. You'll write us one, too when you've tried it. Try it now. By mail 60c. (2) J. P. ALLEN, Dept. 168, ST. PAUL, MINN.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT subscribers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

G. McC. Hockman, Va.—We are not experts, but we have on more than one occasion said in these columns that persons of inexperience could not do the work of experts. Whether it was in tanning a hide or requeilsilvering a mirror. They look easy enough in print, but they don't work out so easy.

E. T. W., French Lick, Ind.—We do not know anything about the firm except what you tell us. Suppose you lay the matter before the Post-Office Department at Washington. It seems to us that you are out only thirty cents, as what you got for one dollar and fifty cents was what you would have had from any other firm in the same line.

Y. K. B., Cox, Md.—You will find the addresses of manufacturers on most of the post-cards in your possession. Write to them. We have no list.

Drooping Lily, Lebanon, Kans.—COMFORT buys some stories and has others written to order. Before beginning to write stories you should inform yourself by reading the various periodicals of the country "what subjects are preferred nowadays." Until you know what the public wants you are not prepared to become a producer to meet its wants. If you will take our advice you will not attempt to enter the story-writing field. There are too many drooping lilies in it now.

M. A. S., Butte, Mont.—You cannot successfully handle a patented article, however meritorious, by writing to possible firms dealing in that line. You must show your goods. They are all from Missouri and have to be shown. You might get replies by advertising the article in trade journals which cater to that trade. We might give you the addresses of a dozen firms, all of which would decline your article, and the thirteenth might take it. That is where the advertisement beats the letter writing, for the advertisement would go to so many more than a dozen.

B. H., New Castle, Pa.—Why write to COMFORT for information about the Parkville Seminary? You have the only address we have, why not write direct to the Seminary as we advised the other inquirer to do? Hadn't that occurred to you as the best way to get information?

Mrs. F. L. McC., Peachontas, Ala.—We don't think you can make a good job of rebacking your old mirror, but write to Hullinger, Francesville, Ind., for instructions and see what he has to say. About the plating write to Gray & Co., Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. J. F. M., McAra, Ark.—Write to J. P. Hart, No. 705 S. Capital Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

W. O. R., Harrisburg, Ill.—We believe there is not yet any coal mining in Arizona, though what may be discovered there later remains to be seen. If you want information about Arizona write to Hon. George U. Young, Sec'y of State, Phoenix, asking for literature on the subject. They have it to give away.

Subscriber, Hartford, Conn.—Oh, say, we thought the reason why this was the first century had been settled about eleven years ago when everybody was arguing over it. Really we are not satisfied in our minds yet why it is, because we are not sure that it is. If the first hundred years of the Christian Era was the second century, then the nineteenth hundredth is the 20th century, but if the first hundred was the second century where did the first century come in? Caesar Augustus died A. D. 14. If that is the second century, where was he in the first? We suppose they count it as the centuries after Christ, so that until after the year 100 there wasn't a century after Christ, which would make this the 20th. It isn't very clear yet, is it? And it won't ever be to everybody. It's like people's birthdays. A man is certainly in his first-year after he is fifty years old, but when he becomes fifty is that his fiftieth birthday or his fifty-first? It is the fiftieth anniversary of his birthday.

Mrs. E. F. C., Big Spring, Texas.—You will probably get other letters, sent in the same kind of a

search, back from the Post-Office Department. Those are mostly to catch the ignorant and superstitious. If you are not in that class try something else. See answer above to Mrs. F. E., Sigel, Ill.

Miss M. J. T., Salisbury, Md.—To take out mildew spots wet with a solution of chloride of soda, or of chloride of lime. Fruit and wine stains may also be removed in this way. Another way is to scrape some yellow soap on the spots and sprinkle a little salt and starch on that. Rub all off and put the article in the sunshine. P. S. We hope you will not lose this as you did the other. Why not have a scrap book in which to save the good things you find in COMFORT, if you cannot preserve the entire paper?

A. G. C., Aurora, N. C.—Firms in all the cities buy evergreens for Christmas, but they buy them from regular dealers and unless you can ship in car load lots there is nothing in it for you. Go to see your local dealers and either sell to them or combine with them in making large shipments. Ship to your nearest city, because freight rates will cut you out on long hauls, as the Christmas greens crop grows close to every city.

J. P. N., Lovilla, Ia.—The theory of music may be successfully taught by mail, but the practice of it cannot. (2) Young men of any age can enter automobile schools, but boys are not admitted. A good education is necessary, but the more a chauffeur knows, especially about mechanics and roads, the better job he will get. Don't know the Omaha address. Do you know how far it is from Omaha to Augusta?

Mrs. E. K., Casey, Ill.—We do not preserve the addresses of inquirers, nor do we remember the initials we use. If you want to get in touch with anyone at Gaffney write to the Postmaster, who as a government official is reliable. You would know nothing about the person inquiring in these columns, even if you had the address.

W. H. O., Levering, Mich.—As far as we know the firm is reliable, but because firm is reliable it is no sign that what it offers in an advertisement is worth to you what it asks for it. It might be very valuable to one person and of no value to another. You must use common sense, and if you haven't any, talk the thing over with somebody who has. There is a post-office of such a name. You don't suppose an advertiser would give an address which was not a post-office and expect to receive mail, do you?

M. M., Perry, O.—A letter sent to the old name of the company will reach it. We don't know the new name. You could get that by writing to Hon. G. U. Young, Secretary, Phoenix, Ariz.

X. Y. Z., Reynoldsville, Pa.—The value of a diploma from a chauffeur school depends on the grade and standing of the school, but usually something more than a diploma is required in the way of recommendation by employers. Chauffeurs get from fifteen a week up, twenty dollars being a fair average in cities for good men. The demand is active for men who are honest and capable. There are plenty of capable chauffeurs, but a scarcity of honest ones. The demand for repair men is about as it is for other mechanics and wages run from twelve dollars a week up, average probably eighteen dollars. Ordinary garage men make less.

F. K., Peoria, Ill.—Sterling Comb Co., Leominster, Mass.; Watson, Porter, Giles Co., No. 61 Leonard Street, Galtysburg, Ind.; Comb Co., No. 343 Canal St., Brown and Chichester, No. 17 White Street, New York City.

A. Y., Lindborg, Kans.—President Taft is not the man to write about U. S. mail patent. Write to Postmaster General Hitchcock, Washington, D. C.

J. G. E., Delray, Fla.—The market for eye stones is limited chiefly to tourists. Write to Meyerwitz, No. 104 East 23rd Street, New York City. (2) Progressive Cycle Co., No. 81 Chambers Street, Brandenburg Bros. & Alliger, No. 103 Reade Street, New York City.

F. L., Grand Saline, Texas.—Alfred J. Miller of Buffalo, N. Y., corrects our translation of your Spanish phrase *Hasta la vista* which we said meant as far as the sight, to "see you later," or words to that effect, as the French say *au revoir*, and we sometimes say, "so long." Our Spanish being somewhat frost bitten in Maine we asked a man who said he knew the language and we took his interpretation as correct. We extend our *gracias* to Mr. Miller.

F. A. B., Newark, N. J.—Ink spots may be removed from linen by wetting the spots in milk and covering them with salt. This should be done before the linen has been washed. Another way is to remount the spot with ink and apply muriatic acid diluted with five times its weight of water. Wash the acid out thoroughly for it will bite holes in the goods, if not.

F. H., Stanton, Ill.—The speed of shorthand depends more on the person than the method. Become first class in any and you will find plenty of work to do. You need something more than speed to be a first-class stenographer.

V. O., Woodbine, Texas.—Write to A. A. Marks, No. 701 Broadway; Lawrence Bros., No. 137 Bible House and H. Angar, No. 18 Jones Street, New York City.

I. W., Walkhill, N. Y.—We don't know the "California quackshot." Make inquiries of Secretary of State, Sacramento, Cal.

D. E. V. E., Chapin, Iowa.—Write to A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, Ill.

M. McB., Glenoka, Okla.—The only firms that purchase manuscripts of short stories are the editors who use such matter and want the stories that are offered. Tell your stories on the editors of the various magazines. Make inquiries for details of La Touche Hancock, No. 134 West 37th St., New York City.

If You are Not a Subscriber

and you receive this paper, it is because you are among the favored few to whom it is sent as a **FREE SAMPLE COPY**, with the Publisher's compliments, this month only, that you may see for yourself what an excellent all-round family magazine it is, and to give you an opportunity to subscribe in time to receive

January COMFORT

the bright New Year number which, among many attractive features, will contain the first part of "KIDNAPPING A BRIDE," a story of strange adventure with a thrill in every line, starting from start to finish. This and many other good things you will regret if you miss them by not subscribing at once.

KINDLY LOOK THIS PAPER THROUGH. It will interest you, and every member of your family will find something of especial interest in it.

THE BEST SERIAL STORIES BY WELL-KNOWN POPULAR AUTHORS, and bright, snappy short stories in each issue, constitute one of the strong and attractive features of COMFORT. We call attention to

"IN WOLF'S CLOTHING"

A Stunning New Serial Story

by Charles Garvice, the celebrated English author, which began in November COMFORT and will run through the winter and spring months. You will want to read this and the other new serial which will soon begin in COMFORT.

EACH MONTH COMFORT contains a vast amount of instructive and useful information covering a wide range of interesting topics besides some seasonable special articles of timely importance and one or more smart short stories.

Its **HOME-DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT** is exceedingly popular and is worth many times the price of the paper to any woman, while its many other departments are full of good, practical advice on the every-day matters of life.

We believe that no other paper or magazine has so many valuable departments as COMFORT, and we call special attention to our "FAMILY DOCTOR," "HOME LAWYER," "VETERINARY," "POULTRY" and "MODERN FARMER" departments as important features which you will not find in any other one paper.

COMFORT Is Bright, Cheery, Up to Date

Its tone is moral, patriotic and Christian. An **ELEVATING INFLUENCE IN THE HOME**, it helps to keep the children contented to stay at home evenings and protects them from the temptation of reading demoralizing literature.

COMFORT Is the Best All-Round Family Monthly

Nothing cheap about it but its popular subscription **PRICE OF 25 CENTS FOR FIFTEEN MONTHS**, which is low enough to be within anybody's means. Subscribe now so not to miss the big, bright January number with "KIDNAPPING A BRIDE," and other fine stories.

FILL OUT the subscription blank below and send with it 25 cents for 15 months. (35 cents a year in Canada.) Do it now.

Publisher of COMFORT Augusta, Maine.

December 1911.

I am sending 25 cents for 15 months subscription to COMFORT.

Name

Post-office

County

State

MENS COMPLETE OUTFIT
FINE NAVY BLUE WOOL SERGE SUIT \$4.95
SWELL STRIPPED WORSTED TROUSERS
AND DANDY SAFETY RAZOR
SAFETY RAZOR FREE
Until they are gone we will sell 15,000 year around working BLUE WOOL SERGE MEN'S SUITS at \$4.95, and as a premium and adv. we will give FREE with each suit a pair of fine fancy striped worsted trousers, and if you order within 30 days we will throw in as a special premium with the suit and extra trousers at \$4.95 a highly selected, full size safety razor, guaranteed to shave as perfectly as any \$5.00 safety razor regardless of name or make. The suit is a daily's finest grade a splendid fast color fabric of perfect weave and a beautiful changeable finish. It is stylishly made up by expert tailors in latest single breasted sack style to fit perfect, in serge lined, elegantly finished, guaranteed better than exclusive clothing's \$8 to \$10 suits or no sale. Size: 32 to 42 in. around breast.

THE FREE TROUSERS
which we give with the suit at \$4.95 are made of beautiful dark, fancy striped worsted, a very stylish, finely tailored and perfect fitting, after over 10 years' experience in the clothing business. We openly challenge any firm to equal it. deposit, mention No. X41, give chest measure over vest, waist measure over trousers, length of leg and height and weight, and we will send the fine navy blue wool serge suit and extra pair of elegant fancy striped worsted trousers and fine safety razor by express subject to examination at the express office, you to pay the balance, \$3.95 and express charges, after you examine the clothes and find them perfectly satisfactory, a perfect fit, the greatest clothing bargain you ever saw, and equal to any suit and extra trousers you ever saw at \$10.00 to \$12.00, and of any style or otherwise we will promptly refund your \$1.00. Order the outfit today or send for our big cloth sample book (BE SURE and ASK FOR BOOK NO. 27) which contains 100 fine cloth samples of ready made suits at \$4.95 up, trousers at \$4.95 up, \$4.95 up, slip on raincoats \$4.50, cravattes \$2.50, and complete stocks of cold weather clothing, such as fur coats, duck, corduroy and sheepskin clothing, sheep lined coats and all kinds of men's and youth's clothing. Order this outfit or write for the sample book No. 27 today. Do not wait.

IF YOU WANT MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS send for FREE CATALOG OF MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. Special lined underwear 39c, ribbed heavy underwear 39c, sweaters 95c, and whole lot prices for hats, coats, shirts, etc. every kind of apparel for men and boys.

JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 150-151 West CHICAGO

THE FREE SAFETY RAZOR We give with each suit and extra pair of trousers at \$4.95 in full size, highly nicked, complete with blade of finest razor steel perfect honed and strapped, guaranteed to shave as clean, cool and comfortable as any \$5.00 safety razor or your money back immediately.

No More Trusses
or "appliances" with cutting leg-straps or belts
Trusses Like These Are a Crime
Here's your chance to be forever rid of those misery-making trusses with leg straps and with steel springs. Simply write for our free book containing facts which look up 40 years of day-after-day experience to learn. It tells how 290,000 people found relief or cure after 60 days trial and how you have the same privilege of finding out without risking a penny how you can be cured. Don't accept your condition as final. Don't think you have to wear those torturing straps or springs any longer. Your reward for simply writing for this book NOW will be TO KNOW how you can get relief at last or not a penny spent. We also send 4000 public endorsements from ministers, physicians and prominent people, many of them living in your own vicinity. To miss reading this book might be to miss the one chance YOU have to be well again. Simply address:—

BOX 68—CLUTHE CO.,
125 East 23rd St., New York City

FREE PURIFINA FREE
Is an ointment that cures Eczema, Sun Burn, Bolls, Sores, (cuts), Stings of Insects, and all itching and eruptions of Skin and Scalp.
Make 20c
Rolled Gold Adjustable Bracelet with 9 rolled gold hearts engraved with your initial or with any name. We will give it FREE for selling only 20 boxes of PURIFINA at 1 cent each. Remit us 50c, keeping 30c cash for yourself. We will send you this beautiful bracelet, engraved as you wish, postpaid. Hundreds write our remedy cures Eczema, Sun Burn, Bolls, Stings of Insects, etc. is used by many doctors. Send No Money. We will trust you with the goods until you have seen them.
Hickman Mfg. Co., 711 Chestnut St., New York
GOOD AGENTS WANTED

BOX 68—CLUTHE CO.,
125 East 23rd St., New York City

FREE PURIFINA FREE
Is an ointment that cures Eczema, Sun Burn, Bolls, Sores, (cuts), Stings of Insects, and all itching and eruptions of Skin and Scalp.
Make 20c
Rolled Gold Adjustable Bracelet with 9 rolled gold hearts engraved with your initial or with any name. We will give it FREE for selling only 20 boxes of PURIFINA at 1 cent each. Remit us 50c, keeping 30c cash for yourself. We will send you this beautiful bracelet, engraved as you wish, postpaid. Hundreds write our remedy cures Eczema, Sun Burn, Bolls, Stings of Insects, etc. is used by many doctors. Send No Money. We will trust you with the goods until you have seen them.
Hickman Mfg. Co., 711 Chestnut St., New York
GOOD AGENTS WANTED

FREE
We give WATCHES, SILVER, and many other things for selling only 20 boxes of PURIFINA at 1 cent each. Remit us 50c, keeping 30c cash for yourself. We will send you this beautiful bracelet, engraved as you wish, postpaid. Hundreds write our remedy cures Eczema, Sun Burn, Bolls, Stings of Insects, etc. is used by many doctors. Send No Money. We will trust you with the goods until you have seen them.
Hickman Mfg. Co., 711 Chestnut St., New York
GOOD AGENTS WANTED

4 RINGS FREE
Send your name and address for 12 pieces of our jewelry to sell at 10c each. Return \$1.20 when sold; we will positively send these 4 beautiful rings free. Date Watch Co., Dept. 716 Chicago

LADIES make supporters \$12.00 per hundred; no canvassing; material furnished; stamped envelope for particulars. Wabash Supply Co., Dept. A330, Chicago.

LADIES NERVO is what you need for nervousness. BE CONVINCED! Sent \$1.00 to Welk Remedy Co., Box 353, Pittsburgh, Pa.

LADIES Make Shields at Home. \$10.00 per 100. Work sent prepaid to reliable women. Particulars for stamped envelope. EUREKA CO., Dept. 21, Kalamazoo, Mich.

FAT VANISHES

ONE POUND A DAY

BY NEW DRUGLESS METHOD.

TRUE SUCCESS AT LAST
DOUBLE CHIN VANISHES.

Two Hundred Thousand Women Made Happy With This New Knowledge Thru a Copy of This Remarkable Book, "WEIGHT REDUCTION WITHOUT DRUGS." Isn't This Convincing Evidence As To Its Value?

SEND FOR FREE COPY TODAY.



I Will Send This Book to You at My Expense.

THE JOY OF LIVING IS THE HERITAGE OF THE LEAN. I WAS STOUT,—AND I KNOW.

My friends were charitable and they called it obesity; others referred to me as being STOUT, but I know, it was just plain bulky weight. I was miserable,—you too, are equally miserable if you are too stout.

To reduce your weight you must find the cause, you must get at the very reason.

I FOUND THE CAUSE,—THE REST WAS EASY.

Before I succeeded, I tried everything within reason and some things beyond reason.

It was maddening,—disgusting.

All I had to do was to remove the cause, and I swear under oath, that by my simple method, without drugs, medicine, harmful exercises, or starvation diet, I reduced my weight 37 pounds in five weeks, and guarantee that I can do the same for you. I do not use medicine of any kind or worthless stuff to rub on the body, but a simple home treatment; even a child can use it without harm. Through this marvelous combination home treatment, I succeeded because I had found the right way. I can now climb to the summit of Pike's Peak with ease. I could not do that until I had taken off 37 pounds of my ponderous weight.

If you are interested in your own happiness and health and figure, you will permit me to tell you how to reduce your weight "Nature's Way."

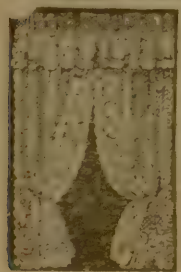
I have printed a book for you entitled, "Weight Reduction Without Drugs," which I am giving away without charge, prepaid to you, so that you may know of my successful method and be able to permanently reduce your weight any amount up to 70 pounds, without harmful exercises or starvation diet, drugs or medicines.

Send for my book, "Weight Reduction Without Drugs." It is yours for the asking, and I will be glad to send it to you, postage prepaid. I have found that the best way to know happiness is to give it.

Sincerely your friend,

MARJORIE HAMILTON,
SUITE 2526 CENTRAL BANK BLDG. DENVER, COLO.

ICE CURTAINS FREE



Large, full-sized, beautiful Nottingham Lace Curtains. 2 1/2 yards long, elegant patterns. All I ask of you is to send name and address at once. I then send, all charges paid, six packages of beautiful highly colored silk and gold embossed Post Cards, all different, to distribute by my special plan at 25c each. When distributed send me the \$1.50 collected and I will send you at once these handsome curtains, without one cent of cost. Don't delay. Address, CURTAIN CLUB, Dept. 42, Household Bldg., TOPEKA, KANSAS.



Are You Troubled

with constipation or piles? If you are, do not tax and injure your stomach with medicine. Your physician will endorse our Entona Suppositories as a simple, practical and safe remedy. It has proved so for over thirty years. If your druggist does not keep them send to MAISON DE SANTE, 280 6th Ave., New York, N. Y.

ASTHMA REMEDY FREE

Write me at once and I will send you by express a full size \$1.00 bottle to be paid for if it cures. Otherwise you pay me nothing and your word settles the matter. D. J. LANE, 268 Lane's Bldg., St. Mary's, Kans.

RHEUMATISM CURED

FREEDOM AT LAST. Throw off the shackles. Send your address and receive Glad Tidings of Relief Free. W. H. SUTTON, Chemist, 2441 Orchard St. Los Angeles, Cal.

\$8.00 PER HUNDRED for collecting names and addresses. Steady work; stamp for particulars. Birely, Guker & Co., Dept. 5, Ladisburg, Md.

Manners and Looks



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Blondy, Joliet, Ill.—Perhaps it is just as well, now that he is married and out of the way, not to send him a post-card on his birthday, even if he did send you a present on your birthday before he was married. It would be more polite to send the card to his wife. (2) The young man who thought more of etiquette than he did of the girl would not stop and talk to her, or if he did, he would make it very brief, while the other chap would let etiquette go hang and talk to the girl as long as he could—if he liked her. Very formal people merely speak and pass on. (3) The gay girls may have all the beaux and the quiet girls not have any, but it is the gay girls who have the trouble after they make husbands of the beaux, if they don't have it before. You keep to the quiet ways.

Gray Eyes, New Philadelphia, O.—Can't you guess what a girl should say to a young man who had asked to take her home and she wanted him to go? You wouldn't say: "Thank you very much, but I'd rather go home by myself," would you? No? Then say something to him that he wants you to say. Say it anyway you please. What does he care for etiquette?

Lucian V., Unlontown, Ky.—Wake up, Lucian, wake up. It is not because you haven't the spunk to speak up that your dear Gonda won't have you. You have spunk enough, but you haven't the right line on Gonda, and you never will have, in our judgment. Gonda doesn't love you, Lucian, and she couldn't if she wanted to seeing that love is uncontrollable and settles where it pleases. You are very wise not to go down to the water and end it all, because the water is wet and likely to spoil your new courting suit. Besides you will be a deader one when they fish you out than you are now and Gonda will not be weeping on the bank. Give Gonda the hook and go find some girl who appreciates a good thing when it comes her way. It's the only road to happiness. Gonda is a goner as far as you are concerned.

Blue Rose, Ashley, N. Dak.—We think the young woman has no intention of coming to North Dakota in the spring or any other time and we advise you to find another girl. Write to her saying you think she should marry the nice young man in her Michigan town and give her your blessing. This courting a girl by mail is no good anyhow, and you should find one there where you live and who has friends living all around her.

Wild Rose, Walcott, N. Dak.—We do not find among the rules of etiquette any information on the subject and cannot answer your question. Maybe it is entirely North Dakota manners.

Blue Eyes, Belleville, N. J.—A girl is of age at twenty-one in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. (2) It is the correct thing to ask a young man to call, even though at your first meeting, but there should be some reason why you do. That is that he has proved himself to be unusually pleasant, or that you have mutual friends.

Disappointed Girl, Davies, S. Dak.—It is very bad manners for your father to give you "the dickens," every time a young man comes to call on you, and being twenty-one you should tell him so, and tell him that if he does not let you have callers you will marry some young man and have a house of your own. You can't do much else than that with some fathers. (2) Two o'clock in the afternoon is a proper enough hour to send a caller home, but not two o'clock in the morning. You should send him away at least three hours before at time. (3) If he gave you the lock of expecting to marry you, you should give it back to him if you do not intend to marry him.

Mrs. E. W., Gilmour, Ind.—Sorry, but it is now too late to send you a list of games for Halloween. You ought to know by this time, considering how many times we have said it in this column, that we cannot answer questions in a hurry. Hope you had a good time at the party, just the same.

Curly Hair, Alpha, Ark.—The "most polite" way when a couple is walking together is for the man to do what the lady wants him to do, take her arm, give her his, or not take arms at all. The custom of taking arms is nowadays no longer governed by etiquette, but the wishes of those walking. To shake hands when saying good night is proper.

Anxious, Somerville, Ala.—Etiquette does not prescribe what the lady shall say when the gentleman asks her to sit in his lap. Some ladies would say things that would run him off the premises and others would not. You must make your own manners for such occasions. (2) Etiquette does not recognize the good night kiss, either. But don't believe him when he tells you he will think more of you if you do than if you do not. He tells every girl the same thing and he thinks less of each one for being so easy. —If they let him. (3) When a man calls at a house where there are two sisters, he should say what he calls which one he wants to see, unless he wants to see both, or more if there are more than two. If he is so jealous he doesn't want to let you look at anybody else, you be one of the sisters that he does not see. That kind is no good.

Two Girls, Elk Horn, Ida.—The only proper manner to treat young men who are too "fresh" is to send them away somewhere where they will keep till they know how to be gentlemen. Have no fear that any young man is too backward to propose. If any fellow wants a girl bad enough he will not let her get away because he is too bashful to stop her. Still, if you are afraid he is, you might propose to him. If he is as bashful as you think he is, he will drop dead on the spot when he hears the fatal words. You should tell the young man who asked you to go buggy-riding with him after he had asked another girl that you are very glad the other girl couldn't go. What's the good of getting snippy because you are second choice when you will lose a nice buggy-ride by it? Get all the good things you can, even if you don't have first choice at them. What you get somebody else doesn't and so there you are.

Keystone Girl, Bedford, Pa.—Ten years' difference in ages is just about right. A woman of twenty-four is about ten years older than a man of thirty-four, and a woman of thirty-four is about twenty years older than a man of forty-four. If he is a real live one, if your sweetheart has no faults except his age don't wait a minute, but marry him.

J. H. E., Ulysses, Neb.—Nothing is quite so shocking to real etiquette as a young fellow who has whiskers enough to shave and wants to use a depilatory instead of a razor. Get a safety and go at it right. Next thing you will be asking for some sort of a preparation to prevent your voice from becoming bass.

Indian Girl, Cressona, Pa.—Wear whatever colors are most becoming to you. There is no rule of fashion which can make a woman wear what is unbecoming if she doesn't want to. Plainly made dark stuffs, if in good taste and of good material, are much to be preferred to the flashy, flouncy things some women wear because dressmakers say they are the style.

J. B. H., La Follette, Texas.—It is the usual custom on being introduced to say that you are glad to meet the person, though the rule is not rigid and you need only bow. Some pleasant greeting, however, is more human than merely to bow as though you were a wooden man. You are always safe in saying you are glad to meet the person. As to giving the hand when introduced, it is proper between men, but you should wait till the lady extends hers, before you do, when you are introduced to a lady. A real lady will not decline to take the man's extended hand, but good form says he should give her the right to be the first to offer the hand.

Blue Eyes, Elizabethtown, Ky.—Some mothers have

a way of coming into the room where a daughter is receiving a call from a young man and stick there till he goes away. She has a right to, we suppose, but it shows that she has very little confidence in her daughter or her caller, or that she wants to talk to a young man so badly that she can't leave him. Every mother should meet the young men who call on her daughters, but she should never stop longer than half an hour, and not that long if she knows the young man, unless she happens to be one she doesn't want her daughter to see.

Anxious, Cooke, Mich.—Ordinarily a young woman does not send any birthday remembrance, post-card, or otherwise, to the young man after their engagement is broken, and if she does and he does not return the compliment on her birthday she has no right to complain of lack of manners on his part. He does not want to remember her birthday and that ends it. You should have forgotten he ever had a birthday.

Blue Bird, Jacksonville, Texas.—An engagement of marriage carries with it certain obligations which both parties to it must observe and will observe, if they are truly engaged. The young man in your case is not acting as he should, and he cannot fairly offer as an excuse for not seeing you that he is too busy with his studies. No matter if it is understood that you are not to marry until he finishes his education, the obligation is just the same, and he should take time to see you. We think that you should break the engagement, and only have an understanding that by and by you will become engaged and marry. In the meantime, each of you will be free to do as you please.

Ray, Ogden, Utah.—Certainly the young man may take Miss B. home, although he is "going steady with" another young lady. A young man doesn't have to be impolite to one lady because another has a claim on him, does he? If he made a specialty of taking Miss B. home when she didn't require his services, that might be different. (2) Why is it not proper to write to a "lady friend" while you are away at school? Only don't let the lady friend get more of your attention than your studies do.

Sadie, Troy, Ind.—A scarfpin, or a cigar cutter, or a match-safe, or a cane, or an umbrella, or half dozen handkerchiefs, would make a nice Christmas or graduation present for a young man. What did you think of giving him? A steamboat, or a motor car, or an aeroplane, or something like those? You ought to know what Trojan maidens give to their best young men for Christmas and other gift days.

Brown Eyes, Avon, Minn.—Be as nice to her as you were when she thought you were the nicest thing on earth, and maybe you can win her back. You had no business making love to her sister, when you had a scrap with her, and should have had sense enough not to have paid attention to another girl right under her own roof. Why didn't you go farther from base? We rather think you deserve to lose her for good. It may teach you a lesson, if you do.

Maudie and Nellie, Kernerville, N. C.—Etiquette does not apply in your cases. Have it out with your Sunday school teacher.

Slender, Rice Lake, Wis.—Don't eat potatoes if you don't want to add to your avoirdupois. They are fattening. So are fat meats, sweets and bread and water at meals. Food to make people thin is veal, turkey, cabbage, carrots, spinach, radishes, cucumbers, squash, spiced, vinegar, pickles, clams and cooked oysters, salted meats, watery soups, salt fish, hard boiled eggs, bananas, lean beef, dry corn, and other foods containing no sugar or fat. Your mile walk if taken very briskly will tend to keep your flesh down. Twice that far would be better to keep away the fat.

Hallie, Barium, Minn.—Pupils usually call their teacher "Teacher," but it would be quite proper for you to call yours "Mr. B.," though there is something that that the other pupils might comment upon. You may do as you please. (2) To have refused once to ride with him and shortly after to accept his invitation, does not reflect so much upon rules of etiquette as it does upon your vacillating mind. It isn't necessary to be rigid in your decision, but you shouldn't wobble like that.

ST. VITUS' DANCE

Sure Cure. Get Circular. Dr. Fenner, Fredonia, N. Y.



Since John Quit Drinking

By John's Wife



Used Golden Remedy, The Great Home Treatment For Drunkards.

Odorless and Tasteless—Any Lady Can Give It Secretly At Home In Tea, Coffee Or Food.

Costs Nothing To Try.

If you have a husband, son, brother, father or friend who is a victim of liquor, all you have to do is to send your name and address on the coupon below. You may be thankful as long as you live that you did it.

Free Trial Package Coupon

Dr. J. W. Haines Company,
2447 Cienn Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio.
Please send me, absolutely free, by return mail, in plain wrapper, so that no one can know what it contains, a trial package of Golden Remedy to prove that what you claim for it is true in every respect.

Name
Street
City
State

EXTENSION BRACELET FREE
This handsome Gold Bracelet, set with sparkling Amethysts given for selling 50 NEW MOTTO PICTURES 10c each. We trust you. Write for 20 pictures. GEM ART COMPANY, Dept. 612, Battle Creek, Mich.

A BEAU tiful neck, face and arms Don't pay 50c, but send 10c. for sealed package to make your skin soft and white and cure pimples, freckles, moth, black head, wrinkles, &c. A perfect skin and food powder combined. Warranted absolutely pure. TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927, Boston, Mass.

50c. Box FREE

TO LADIES WHO ARE SUFFERING. During DECEMBER ONLY we will send one FIFTY CENT BOX OF ORANGE LILY absolutely FREE. It has cured thousands of Ladies after years of suffering from Diseases Peculiar to their sex as testimonials will show. It is an applied treatment, acting directly on the diseased organs and has cured the worst forms of the following diseases: Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement and Irregular and Painful Menstruation. Address The Coonley Medicine Co., 236 Cass St., Detroit, Mich.



STYLISH HOLIDAY GIFT DECORATIONS
Bright Cards, Tags, Stamps, Seals and Stickers To Beautify Your Christmas and New Year Presents
Choice New Assortment With Dainty 1912 Calendar.
160 PIECES FREE.

The use of these beauteous emblems of holiday cheer is now so prevalent that without them the gift seems lacking in Christmas sentiment. The gummed seals, Santa Claus heads, holly and Christmas leaf stickers, and Christmas stamps beautifully embossed and printed in colors and gold serve to seal letters and packages, or may be used as materials for getting up an endless variety of nice home-made presents. The stylish Christmas tags and greeting cards can be tied to or enclosed within the package to bear a cheerful message with the gift. The excellent, large, imported, greeting post cards in new designs and brilliant colors convey your holiday remembrance and season's greetings to friends whom you cannot favor with a present. The wall calendar 16 1/2 inches long (no advertising on it) is a dainty parlor ornament.

"One might as well be out of the world as out of fashion," as the proverb goes. So we assume that you desire a set of these stylish Holiday-Gift Decorations to add an air of elegance and tone of refinement to your Christmas presents, and will be glad to obtain the large 160 piece assortment in splendid new designs which we offer you free.

100 gummed seals and stickers, Santa Claus heads, Holly and Christmas leaves; 12 Assorted gummed Christmas stamps; 12 Small Christmas Greeting Tags and Cards; 5 Medium Christmas Greeting Cards; 6 Large imported, Christmas Cards; 15 Large Christmas Greeting Post Cards; 5 Large New Year Post Cards; 4 Large Christmas Greetings Tags; 1 1912 Fancy Colored Calendar Size 3 1-2 X 16 1-2 inches.
Total 160 Assorted Pieces.

We will send you the above described 160 piece lot free, if you will promptly renew your subscription to COMFORT for two years for 30 cents and send us one 15 month subscription at 25 cents—only 55 cents in all for your 2 year renewal and the 15 month subscription, and you get the big 160 assortment free.

As this offer, which we are making only to renewing subscribers, is so liberal and attractive our limited stock of these beautiful goods is sure to be exhausted within a short time, so please act promptly if you would profit by it.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Big Money For Furs

Get more for your furs, and make more money. We pay twice as much as home buyers and from 10 to 30% more than any other dealer anywhere. Our big, free, illustrated catalog tells why and proves it by letters from buyers in every State. Send for it today—now—before you forget. We'll send with it also our free Trap-Trap-Trap! Guide, tells how to trap and care for furs. Also our big free price list and market report. All sent free for asking and all different from anything you ever saw. CARRY HIDE & FUR CO., 235 Main St., Corry, Pa.

WATCH, RING AND CHAIN FREE

FOR SELLING ONLY \$1.50 WORTH. American Movement, rich case, fine time-keeper, for selling 6 boxes Blood Tablets at 25c. each. When sold return \$1.50 and we send Watch, also extra premium of Ring and Chain for money sent in 10 days. STANDARD REMEDY CO., 9 Cortlandt St., Dept. 48, New York City.

Gold Picture to anyone FREE sending 4c to pay postage, etc. we will send a beautiful large motto picture in colors with solid gold background. Only one picture to a person at this price. Agents wanted. A Big Money Maker. C. A. VERA, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Today person who can supply the correct name of these two well-known American Cities, and fulfill conditions below, we offer our \$10-Dollar Lady's Solid Gold Watch, stamped, fully jeweled, as FREE GIFT. Silver Watches presented to Gent. Send your attempt on a sheet of paper, together with addressed envelope and stamp for reply, to **FELLOWS & CO.**, Merchants, 79 Adelaide St., Toronto, Ont., Can. Winner is required to purchase a chain from us to wear with watch.

DRUNKENNESS

The steady or periodical (spray) drinker can be saved in 3 days with this knowledge. Dr. J. H. Dye's remedy is guaranteed. Gentle, pleasant, perfectly harmless. It does not matter how many years. This is the genuine home treatment. Immediately enclosed and proved by legions of testimonials. Book and particulars, free, postpaid. Address: **EDWARD J. WOODS**, 534 Sixth Ave., F 359, New York, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED Sell our line of 1000s. Each package for 10 cents. 200 Per Cent Profit. Best Seller. Finest Medicine. Complies with pure drug laws. Dispenses by mail. Send now for terms. **F. R. GREENE**, 30 E. Lake St., Chicago

OPIUM or Morphine Habit Treated. Free trial. Cases where other remedies have failed, specially desired. Give particulars. **DR. R. G. CONTELL**, Suite 538 No. 400 W. 23d St., New York

I Cured My Rupture

I Will Show You How To Cure Yours FREE!

I was helpless and bed-ridden for years from a double rupture. No truss could hold. Doctors said I would die if not operated on. I fooled them all and cured myself by a simple discovery. I will send the cure free by mail if you write for it. It cured me and has since cured thousands. It will cure you.

Fill out the coupon below and mail it to me today

Free Rupture-Cure Coupon

CAPT. W. A. COLLINGS, Inc.
Box 25 Watertown, N. Y.
Dear Sir:—Please send me free of all cost your New Discovery for the Cure of Rupture.

Name.....

Address.....

Sterling Silver Finger Rings



With Semi-Precious Stone Settings

The new, popular craze is for these little finger rings, also known as shirt-waist rings, and usually worn on the small finger of left hand.

Coral in any form or color is the proper thing this season. We have these rings in Coral, Jade and Turquoise matrix. Mountings are solid sterling silver in a neat pattern, as shown. Every young lady is wearing a little finger ring, all the jewelers, dry-goods and department stores are showing them in great varieties, years since any similar craze was so universally popular. You should have and wear a sterling silver finger ring. Coral is reddish pink. Jade is light green, and Turquoise matrix blue. Order color preferred, and give correct measurement of your little finger.

Special Offer. Send us only one new 16-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one of these beautiful Rings free. If positively must be a new subscription. Send 10 cents extra, 35 cents in all, if for your own sub. or a renewal. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

STAMPING OUTFIT OF 100 DESIGNS

With Book Illustrating and Teaching Twenty-five Different Stitches in Embroidery.

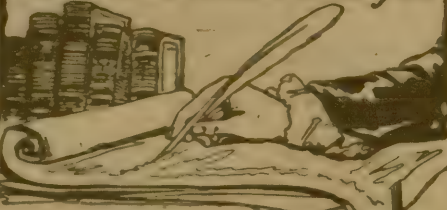
A Remarkable Offer. THESE ONE-HUNDRED designs are a "stock in trade" for anyone wishing to do embroidery to sell—perhaps a little home industry—for they include both large and small pieces, something that will satisfy the most fastidious.

Being new and up-to-date designs, they represent something new and different for your own and family use. With the growing popularity of fine needlework, it has become an ideal gift for the bride, for birthdays and for presents, and what a helpful array of suggestions you can have with these 100 designs before you! The latest ideas in shirt-waists, Dotted Collars, Soda Pillows, Truss Covers, Handkerchiefs, Glove and No-knit Cases, Photo Frames, Centerpieces, Sideboard or Bureau Scarves, Pin Cushions, Covers, Sewing Bags, etc., besides three sets of patterns for working purposes, these designs are perforated on sheets of imported bond paper, each measuring 22x28 inches. We also give you a seven-inch embroidery hoop, a felt stamping pad, and a tablet of French stamping preparation.

MORE STILL. We give you a most valuable book for those who know how to embroider and for those who are just learning. It teaches with illustrations forty-nine extraordinary stitches, which include Eyelet, Filet, Shadow, Wallachian, Herringbone, Long and Short stitch, Solid Kensington, Stem, Outline, Overlap, Couching, Satin, French Laid, Solid Buttonhole, Briar, French Knot, Chain and seventeen others. These directions and illustrations are so plainly given that no other teaching is necessary to learn a stitch.

Did you ever read so extensive a **SPECIAL OFFER**? I am sure you never have, and all this may be yours by sending us only two fifteen-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort's Home Lawyer



In this department will be carefully considered any legal problem which may be submitted by a subscriber. All opinions given herein will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce. Any paid-up subscriber to COMFORT is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents in silver or stamps, for a 16-month subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for fifteen months.

Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORT'S HOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail. Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. E. W. T., Ohio.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion, that a man can leave his whole estate, by will, to his widow; and that if his estate consists in real estate which was deeded to him upon the condition that he support his parents for the term of their natural lives, such condition would be binding upon the land, and the widow would have to carry out the condition in order to perfect her title.

T. J., Illinois.—We do not think that the laws of either Michigan or Indiana require that any period of time elapse after the procuring of a marriage license, before the marriage ceremony can be legally performed.

Mrs. M. K., Illinois.—We do not think that the children or grandchildren of a man could set aside his will for the reason that they did not like the way he disposed of his property. The good grounds for contesting a will would be lack of testamentary capacity that the will did not express the testator's real intentions, that the will was not legally drawn or executed, that the testator was unduly influenced by some other person or persons or that the will did not dispose of the man's property in a legal way.

E. E. S., Texas.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion that when any person having title to property, real, personal, or mixed, shall die intestate as to such estate, and shall leave a surviving husband or wife or a child or children, the surviving husband or wife shall take one third of the personal estate, and a life estate in one third of the real estate, the balance or remainder going to the child or children and the descendants of any deceased child.

E. J., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that a lease of property for one year or less need not be in writing.

F. R. E., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a man, leaving no will, and leaving no children or descendants of children, and leaving no parent, his real estate would go one half to his widow, if one survive and the balance in equal shares among his brothers and sisters, the descendants of any deceased brother or sister taking the parents' share, if no brother or sister or descendant of any brother or sister, the whole estate would go to the surviving widow.

Mrs. H. C., Connecticut.—We are of the opinion that the statute of limitations would not run against, or bar the use of, an easement granted in perpetuity to run a water pipe and run water across the land of another in a case where such pipe line had been kept up, and water run through it constantly.

L. W. H., Arkansas.—We are of the opinion that the will of every decedent who dies, leaving a will, and leaving real estate should be filed and probated in order to establish the title to the property in the proper persons.

Old Subscriber, New Jersey.—We are of the opinion that females become of age at twenty-one in Delaware and New Jersey, and for some purposes at eighteen in Maryland. Lincoln pennies are only worth their face value.

Mrs. W. R., Iowa.—We think any person who makes and uses an article patented by another is liable to the owner of the patent for such infringement.

E. V. D., Kansas.—We think state Reformatories are under state supervision and control and that the inmates are sent to them under sentence from some court; we do not think a parent can send his child to a State Reformatory without the sentence of a proper court, although, of course, such court would have power to send the child on the parent's testimony if the child were guilty of a crime.

Grandma, Wisconsin.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a man leaving no will, and leaving a widow and children, his real estate, other than homestead property, would descend, subject to dower of a one third interest for life to the widow, in equal shares to the children, the lawful issue of any deceased child taking the parent's share. We think each child would receive his or her share, regardless of whether they were children of the surviving widow, or a former wife, and regardless of whether they were minor or of full age; we think a minor child would receive something extra from homestead property, and some allowance from personal property.

Mrs. L. B. W., Illinois.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a woman, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving husband and children her estate would go, one third of the personal property, absolutely, and one third of the real estate for life to the husband, and the balance in equal shares to the children, the children of any deceased child taking the parents' share. We do not think the husband's share in the estate can be cut off by will, but we think children can be disinherited.

FITS I wish every person in the U. S. suffering with FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS to send for one of my large-sized 16-oz. bottles FREE

DR. F. E. GRANT, Dept. 70 Kansas City, Mo.

THE SKY BOY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

home every hour. Twice during the first few days I saw a steamer's hull, low down on the horizon, but the distance was too great for me to be seen.

The Alice Dunning made good time, even if she was going stern first. At the end of the eighth day I saw in the far distance, on my right, an island with a tall, flat mountain looming up. From its appearance I knew that it must be Hawaii. It did not seem possible that I could have gone so far and not been picked up by a vessel of some description. What would be my chances now on that great ocean waste? My provisions would not last more than a week or so longer, even if I stinted myself, which thus far I had not done. How utterly desolate I felt. I had never appreciated my helplessness so much before. I thought of home—would I ever see my mother again? The tears started. I had a good cry. I couldn't help it, and I'm not ashamed to own it either. Any other fellow would have done the same thing, if he had been in my place.

I had been brought up amid religious surroundings, and when at home I always said my prayers every night. Since I had been on my involuntary voyage I had forgotten them. It occurred to me all at once. I dropped down on my knees on the bottom of the boat and I prayed to the Lord to help me, and to take me safely home again. I felt better somehow after that. God had promised to help those who asked him, and I would put my trust in Him.

I had not worried much about my predicament until now. I had expected every day to be picked up by some vessel, but now I had passed by Hawaii my chances seemed less favorable. The fresh food was all gone too, and I had commenced on the canned stuff and hard bread. During the next day I passed at no great distance, a low-lying group of islands that seemed covered with cocoanut palms. If they had only been directly in my path I could have run the boat ashore, but as it was, I was to pass them two or three miles distant.

The few days following I passed other islands, one of them a large one, and I wondered if it might not be inhabited, and if so, by what kind of people? I had heard that cannibals still existed in some of the Pacific islands.

It was the morning of the tenth day after my passing Hawaii that I was awakened early by a sound such as I had heard at home by the surf breaking on the beach at Santa Monica after a storm. I crawled out of my cuddy and looked in the direction of the sound. There, not more than a mile dead ahead was a large island, at least twenty miles long, and all along the whole length, some distance from the shore, was a submerged line of coral reefs over which the sea was breaking into a white foam. Here was a chance. I would go ashore whether I wanted to or not. But how would the Alice Dunning go through the surf, stern foremost? I would certainly be washed overboard—what would I do?

Suddenly an idea came into my head. Why not make the kites carry me over the line of surf? I had taken one ride in the chair. It was still swinging, securely fastened to the line, about fifteen or twenty feet distant from the boat's stern. I could haul in on the line until I brought the chair up to the boat, take a piece of rope, fasten one end to the chair, pass it under one of the boat's seats, and in this way let myself swing clear and be carried up as high in the air as I desired.

I set to work at once so as to have everything ready before I reached rough water. It was hard work, but was finally accomplished, and I sat waiting to get a little nearer before I climbed into the chair. As I glanced at the shore I saw a number of dusky forms come running down to the beach. They waved their arms in a frantic manner and jumped up and down. What their actions signified, I did not know, but I was sure now of one thing, the island was inhabited. Whether they were friendly or not remained to be seen.

I was not within a few yards of the surf. I climbed into the chair, eased up on the line, and ascended rapidly in the air. Before I could secure the line I was up a good forty feet, and the Alice Dunning was plunging in the breakers. I thought I should be jerked out of the chair, she rolled and tumbled so, but in less than two minutes it was all over, she had ridden safely through the surf and was on the bottom in shoal water.

The boat stopped so suddenly and the strain on the kite-line was so great that it parted all at once about ten feet from her stern. My position changed suddenly from upright to nearly horizontal, and I was bobbing around in every direction in the air.

Don't miss the interesting second part of this story in January COMFORT which tells other thrilling adventures and extraordinary exploits of the Sky Boy on land and sea. But you will miss it and all the other good things in January COMFORT if you find an envelope folder renewal blanks wrapped inside this paper and you fail to renew your subscription at once. We cannot furnish back numbers for those who neglect to renew their subscriptions promptly.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Women to Sew at home for a large Philadelphia, Pa. No canvassing; send stamped reply envelope for prices we pay. Universal Co., 23 Walnut St., Phila., Pa.

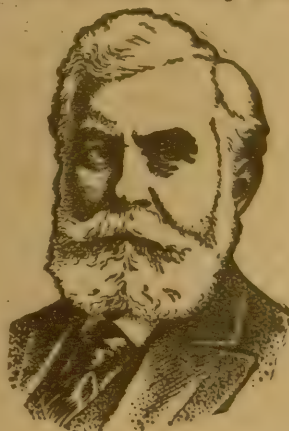
ASTHMA Instant relief and positive cure. Trial treatment mailed free. Dr. Kinsman, Box 618, Augusta, Maine.

THE BEE CELL SUPPORTER

A BOON TO WOMANKIND Made from the purest softest rubber. Six cups or faces render misplacement absolutely impossible. Endorsed by the medical profession. Ask your druggist or send us \$2.00 and we will mail you one postpaid in plain package. Money back if not entirely satisfactory. Descriptive circular free. The Bee Cell Co., Dept. A, White Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.

RHEUMATISM

Let Me Send You a Dollar's Worth of the Great Michigan External Remedy Which is Curing Thousands to Try Free. Just Sign and Mail My Coupon



FREDERICK DYER, Corresponding Sec'y.

Let us cure your Rheumatism (no matter where located, how severe, or whether it is chronic, acute, muscular, sciatic, lumbago or gout) with our powerful, yet harmless Magic Foot Drafts. They have even cured cases of 30 and 40 years' standing where baths and doctors and medicine failed.

Just sign and mail the coupon below. Return mail will bring you prepaid a regular \$1 pair of Magic Foot Drafts, the great Michigan cure for every kind of Rheumatism—chronic or acute—muscular, sciatic, lumbago or gout—To Try FREE. Then if you are fully satisfied with the benefit received send us One Dollar. If not keep your money. You are the judge, and we take your word. We know what Magic Foot Drafts are doing, for we send them everywhere, and wait for our pay until the work is done. Let us send you a pair. Valuable illustrated booklet free with the Trial Drafts. Send no money—just the coupon. Do it today—now.

This \$1.00 Coupon FREE

Good for a regular \$1.00 pair of Magic Foot Drafts to be sent Free to Try (as explained above) to

Name.....

Address.....

Mail this coupon to Magic Foot Draft Company, 1256 Oliver Bldg., Jackson, Mich.

Healthy, Happy Children BORN WITHOUT PAIN

To Women Who Dread Motherhood

The wretchedness and sorrow of childless parents and the dread of the pains of childbirth, which is so often deterrent and can all be done away. Dr. J. H. Dye's system positively cures sterility and assures easy and absolutely painless childbirth.

Thousands of grateful parents and happy women testify to the wonderful success of Dr. Dye's treatment. If you will send him your name and address he will mail you a deeply interesting illustrated book, which explains fully how happy, healthy children can be born without pain. Address Dr. J. H. Dye, 3 Lewis Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

CANCERS

Removed root and branch before paying out one cent. I do all I advertise. Health Herald and testimonials free. Address DR. C. BOYNTON, Lawrence, Mass.

"LET ME" read your character from your handwriting. Mind you get a good reading that will help you in love, health, business and domestic affairs. Price 10c. Money back if dissatisfied. G. A. Beauchamp, 2585 8th Ave., New York.

FOUR PIN WAIST SET

Roman laid gold plate, soft rich gold finish, in a velvet pad box. We show but two pins to give you the sizes; there is one large pin and three smaller ones, one Neck or Waist Pin and the others for collar, cuff or lace pins, equally useful as Baby pins.

We warrant these pins not to break, which is an exceptional guarantee on a pin subjected to such constant and hard use.

Other uses for such a combination set of Four Pins will occur to every lady reader of COMFORT, and we doubt if there are many who can say, "I have no use for them." They are indispensable. Several sets will not be too many to have about, especially if there are children in the family.

Club Offer Send us only one new 15-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one of these four Pins free. If positively must be a new subscription. Send 10 cents extra, 35 cents in all, if for your own subscription or a renewal. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



FOR WOMEN ONLY



I am giving
Health and Happiness
FREE

to thousands of Women

DR. JULIA D. GODFREY, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Let Me Help You

When a woman has reached my age she appreciates that the real only real, lasting pleasure in life is helping others. As a woman I know that there are thousands of women who need help of the sort I am able to give—women who shrink from telling the family physician just what their feelings are and where they are located—just how their troubles affect them—just how sick they really are. They shrink from the examinations which are many times unnecessary and often lead to nothing but embarrassment for the patient. If you suffer from painful or irregular periods; leucorrhoea or whitish discharges; pains in the head, back, breast, thighs or abdomen; bearing down feelings, hot flashes, dizziness, weariness, weakness, nervousness or other signs of female troubles, tell me about it, I will help you free. On the farms, in villages, in towns and even in the larger cities, there are many women who are not able to apply to competent women physicians—specialists in diseases of women. It is to these women I have determined to devote the balance of my life. I believe that the woman physician is best for women. I have seen proof of this in case after case where family physicians and men specialists have failed to help the sufferer. I believe I can bring this truth home to you.

My **FREE** Offer to You

I will give free to every sick or suffering woman who writes to me, or sends me the coupon, a special prescription for her case, a letter of sisterly advice and instruction, and my 122-page Medical Book for Women, all free and mailed in plain wrappers, postage paid.

Just Write to Me

Thousands of letters reach me daily containing almost the same request: "Dear Doctor, can you help me? I am so nervous, so irritable, the slightest exertion exhausts me. My work seems mountainous to me. I worry continually; always fear that something terrible is going to befall me. My back pains me almost constantly; I feel worn out, dragging and despondent. I am still young in years, but old in looks; my hair is turning prematurely gray. My sleep is broken, and I rise in the morning more tired than when going to bed at night. Doctor Godfrey, I have heard of you through other women whom you have helped. You are known, not only as a physician of unexcelled skill, but also as a sympathetic friend to suffering women. You are a mother and know a mother's love. Can you help me?"

My experience is that women are inclined to neglect themselves. Do not let disease steal upon you "like a thief in the night," robbing you, now, and in the years to come, of health—hope—happiness, and the joy of living. Write to me just as you would to a sister, freely and in full confidence.

I Am a Specialist For Women

I am a woman and a mother. I, too, have suffered, but more than this, I am a physician, a specialist in woman's diseases. I have devoted my life to the practice of medicine among my sister women, curing their ills and relieving their suffering, with the successful and treasured prescriptions that I am now going to give you **free of all charge**.

Write to me—I will understand you as no man can—be he doctor or husband, father or brother. I will know what you mean, why you suffer and how to help you. Just as soon as your letter or the coupon reaches me, I will send you a prescription for your particular case, a sisterly letter of advice and my 122-page Book for Women, all absolutely free and postage prepaid, in plain wrappers so that none but you may know what they contain.

I do not want one cent for this. It is my free gift to suffering womanhood. You do not obligate yourself in any way, now or hereafter. Thousands of women have accepted my free prescriptions and my book and are restored to the gladness of perfect health.

Be well and strong. Help is free.

Just Send Me This Coupon A-501

DR. JULIA D. GODFREY, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Doctor:—Please send me a prescription for my case, letter of advice and your 122-Page Medical Book for Women, all free and postage paid—without any obligation on my part whatever.

My Name _____

Post Office _____ State _____

Age _____ How long afflicted? _____ Are you married? _____

Make a cross (X) in front of your troubles. Two crosses (XX) in front of the one from which you suffer most.

..... Constipation	..... Female Weakness	..... Kidney Trouble	..... Catarrh
..... Nervousness	..... Bearing Down Feeling	..... Bladder Trouble	..... Piles
..... Headache	..... Painful Periods	..... Womb Trouble	..... Obesity
..... Dizziness	..... Leucorrhoea	..... Ovarian Trouble	..... Skin Disease
..... Pains in Back	..... Whitish Discharge	..... Itching Parts	..... Impure Blood
..... Stomach Trouble	..... Change of Life	..... Hot Flashes	..... Rheumatism

Describe any other symptoms on a separate sheet, if you wish.

"Oh, My!"

WORDS AND MUSIC BY THOS. BRYAN WEAVER,
Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

Written for "Comfort"

1. I held her tender hands in mine, . . . Beneath the pale moon-light, . . . I gazed into her
2. We drifted with the silv'ry stream, . . . Where bend-ing willows hide . . . The whispers of love's

eyes di-vine, . . . En-rapt-ured by the sight; . . . And firmer grew my ar-dent grasp, . . . And soft-er grew her eye; . . . Un-til with-in my
gold-en dream, . . . Which ten-der hearts con-fide; . . . The balmy air with blossoms sweet, . . . The pen-sive eve-ning's hour, . . . Made hap-piness with

lov-ing clasp, . . . She sweet-ly sighed, "Oh, my!" . . . I bent 'a-bove her beaming face . . . So full of grace and charm; . . . I
us com-plete . . . And held us in love's pow'r, . . . 'Twas then I knelt at love's pure shrine, . . . And prom-ised to be true; . . . And

drew her to my fond em-brace . . . With-in a lov-er's arm, . . . My joy was full, my bliss com-plete, . . . My heart beat fast and
with a look to me di-vine, . . . Lovespoke in eyes of blue; . . . I worshipped then my queen of May, . . . And longed for her re-

high, . . . And as I stole the kiss-es sweet . . . She smiled and said, "Oh, my!" . . . And then I said: . . .
ply; . . . But when I named the wed-ding day, . . . She sim-ply sighed, "Oh, my!" . . .

"Oh, my lit-tle but-ter-fly! I can-not let you go, you know: Oh, my! do not be so shy, For I tru-ly love you so: . . .

Oh, my! would you laugh or cry, If I'd of-fer you my life? . . . Oh, my! lit-tle but-ter-fly! If I'd call you, oh, my wife."

Special Holiday Premium Announcement

How about your Christmas shopping? If you haven't money to burn: if, like the majority, your generosity is bigger than your purse

Get Your Christmas Presents of Us, Free

Many of our subscribers reach a happy solution of the Christmas Present Problem by earning one or more of our attractive premiums which make such acceptable holiday gifts, and at the same time win cash prizes, too.

So we announce the following **Special Holiday Premium Offers** which have been arranged for their benefit and that of others who are quick to see and pick up a good thing.

Our great combination offer of **hundreds of liberal cash prizes** in addition to **valuable club premiums** contained in this paper, presents by far the richest opportunity you have ever had to **turn your spare time and idle moments to profitable account** and **cash them up for big money**, besides the large value in useful goods which come to you free as club premiums.

These premiums are all strictly high-grade goods, in every respect fully equal to what they are pictured and described here in COMFORT.

This choice assortment of useful and ornamental articles, including the most up-to-date novelties, has been selected and assembled with the utmost care to cover a wide range of utility for personal needs and for the home, and to suit the tastes and requirements of both sexes, old and young.

Doubtless you will be surprised at their value and will wonder how we can afford to give them for so few subscriptions; and you are right, for at the retail price which you would have to pay for them at the stores we could not; it is only because we buy in enormous lots at manufacturer's lowest cash prices, and often procure bankrupt stocks below cost, that we are able to hand you out so much in value for so little of your time.

Among them you will surely find something to gratify a long-felt desire, some household necessity, some luxury which you thought you could not afford, and lots of beautiful things for Christmas gifts; and you would jump at the chance to buy it of us at the bargain price we paid. **We never sell them, but we do better for you.**

You can have any of them **without costing you a cent**, just by a slight effort and a little of your spare time, and the same club subscriptions which earn you the premium will count towards winning you a good **Cash Prize**, too.

Read carefully our big offer (on another page) of 825 Cash Prizes which we pay to club-raisers in addition to club-premiums, not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$1,300.00, and see how well it paid our club-raisers last three seasons.

December is one of the best subscription months and besides that thousands of COMFORT subscriptions are expiring every day now.

We permit old subscribers, only, to **renew or extend** their subscription two full years for 30 cents. This is but little over half the regular price, and is good only to those who are taking COMFORT, but **not** to anyone who used to take it and dropped it. Undoubtedly there are many COMFORT subscribers in your neighborhood whose subscriptions are nearly expired, and who will gladly renew two years for 30 cents as soon as you call their attention to it. It is easy to get 15 month subscriptions at 25 cents, and a perfect cinch to get two-year renewals at **special 30-cent rate**, and they count the same as 25-cent subscriptions on Premiums and Cash Prizes.

How to Earn the Premiums and Win the Prizes Without an Effort

When you make a call or have a caller, instead of talking small talk, **show this copy of COMFORT**. Mention some of the stories, departments or topics that are of especial interest and you have a subscriber before you know it without half trying.

It is no disgrace to be poor, but it is a disgrace to be indolent or neglect an opportunity to better one's condition. It is no discredit to do without what one can't afford, but shabbiness is shameful when one can obtain the good things that are needed by a little effort and without expense.

Now that the necessities of life cost so high, prudent, thrifty people, the kind that get ahead in the world, get out and hustle for COMFORT subscriptions and thus earn **valuable premiums** and win **Small Fortunes in Cash Prizes**.

Whatever your circumstances it is well worth your while to enter now and make an effort. **Look in COMFORT** each month this winter and coming spring and see the names of the monthly prize-winners. **Get your name into that list, it pays.**

Select a premium and begin at once so to be early in the field, and enter now with a small club, at least, for this month's cash prizes. **It is a great opportunity, so don't let it slip by you.**

FOUR GREAT BOOKS

All By Augusta Evans Wilson

We have succeeded in arranging for the first time a special edition of four popular books, all from the pen of Mrs. Augusta J. Evans Wilson, always here before unobtainable except at \$1.00 or \$1.25 a copy. Each is a splendid bound book of over 400 or 500 pages, printed in clear type on first quality book paper, bound in buckram with stamped title and half-tone covers. Complete in every way and an especially desirable set of books. You will want one, two or more surely after consulting the entire advertisement, reading the description of each story, and you may be familiar with *St. Elmo*, which has been published in *Comfort*, or *A Speckled Bird*, which recently appeared.

Mrs. Wilson has the distinction of having written the most fascinating American fiction in her several stories some of which are now forty years famous, and has not been approached by any Modern Story for continued success, and today her works command the highest prices and have the largest sales.

In this catalogue we make a special offer on *ST. ELMO*. Be sure and read it.

INFELICE A companion story to *St. Elmo*, very similar yet different. The same sweet charm of the author is clearly apparent, the story is told as only Mrs. Wilson can arrange words, and the charm of interest constantly increases from chapter to chapter. To read one of her stories is to desire another and in *Infelice* you will find splendid characters making a story you are sure to become fascinated with.

VASHTI is yet another of Mrs. Evans Wilson's successful stories equally as popular as the others, and should be read in conjunction with the other Evans' stories. *Vashti* is different and in the difference there is interest; the story is fully as absorbing as its companion stories and leaves the reader with pleasant memories. Mrs. Evans Wilson's stories are unique in originality, unusual in composition and never fail to please every reader, a lacking in nearly every author's work.



A SPECKLED BIRD needs no introduction at this time as the story has appeared serially in *Comfort* to the entire satisfaction of our readers, if we may judge from the volume of testimony coming to us with expressions of thanks for furnishing such a splendid treat. It is difficult to pronounce a preference in Mrs. Evans Wilson's works; each story she has produced has won many thousands of readers. One book may be the most admired by one person and another has another choice, although no one will acknowledge any dislike for any.

A SPECKLED BIRD will speak for itself if you followed a few chapters in *Comfort*. If you possess or have read any of the other Evans' stories you will want this.

AT THE MERCY OF TIBERIUS This is the last of Mrs. Wilson's famous books to be printed in this attractive edition so we can offer it at the same rate as the rest of her interesting stories. From the time of the arrest of the beautiful heroine for the murder of General Darrington to the last page of the book the story is one of excitement and absorbing interest, and we are sure that all of COMFORT'S readers will be anxious to get up a club and secure this book free.

Club Offer. We offer the above books on the following liberal terms: Any one book of your selection for a club of ONLY 4 15-MONTHS SUBSCRIBERS to COMFORT at 25 cents each; any two books for a club of only 7 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each. A Special Offer: If for any reason you cannot get up a club of COMFORT subscribers, we will send any book and a 15 mo. subscription to COMFORT (or EXTEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION for 15 mo. if already paid up), for only 75 cents. Please do not send less than 75 cents or ask us to change this offer. We send all books postpaid.

Address: COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



FIVE FINE BOOKS TWO BEAUTIFUL COLORED PHOTOGRAVURES



THE ISLAND OF DIAMONDS

A stirring sea tale that will make the blood tingle. The romance of an island that was shrouded in mystery and that proved to be the very storm center of thrilling adventures; an island that was strangely found and still more strangely lost. If you have the sort of blood that beats faster at the recital of a great narrative of mystery and adventures, you cannot afford to miss "The Island of Diamonds." It is Harry Danforth at his very best. To readers familiar with his work, the story can have no higher praise.

by Harry Danforth

MY MOTHER'S RIVAL

No writer better understands the quick and sure way to a reader's emotions than does Charlotte M. Braeme. All her books throb with heart interest of the most entrancing, enthralling sort. In "My Mother's Rival," she has written one of her greatest stories. It stirs with the great pulse of human nature and is a tale of rare beauty and intense fascination. There is also about it an element of the supernatural that leaves one with a feeling of almost frightened wonder.

by Charlotte M. Braeme

THE LITTLE ROUGH-CAST HOUSE

Our mothers read and loved the books of Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth. So will our grandchildren. For such stories as hers can never die. They are fraught with a sweetness, a loveliness and a sustained interest that makes them classics for all times. And "The Little Rough-Cast House" is said by competent critics to be the finest piece of work Mrs. Southworth has ever done. It is a story to read—to re-read—and then to pass on as a treat to one's best friend.

by Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth

THE DEVIL'S ANVIL

This is a story that carries the reader through all phases of life, from cottage to palace. And through many a thrilling scene it passes. The description of the horrors of a burning ship in mid ocean is one not lightly forgotten. In fact the whole book bears the reader along on a ceaseless rush of action that grips him from the first page to the very last. It is the masterpiece of Mary Kyle Dallas's many notable books.

by Mary Kyle Dallas

SWEET IS TRUE LOVE

The signature "The Duchess," to any story is as sure a sign of excellence as is the "sterling" stamp on a piece of silver. *Sweet Is True Love*, is the tale of two splendidly normal and attractive young people who searched their way through a host of obstacles to win each other. All the world loves a lover; and all the world loves a well-written love story. Here is a love story that will set the slowest old heart to fluttering.

by The Duchess

Each story is complete, in bound booklet form, with illustrations conveniently arranged in an artistic portfolio. A very beautiful TEN COLORED ART POSTER, GAINSBORO PORTRAIT, size four by five and one-half inches, adorns each portfolio, and this very beautiful subject is READILY REMOVED FOR FRAMING. Another and larger similarly BEAUTIFUL PICTURE, size six by eight inches, is included also in each portfolio and is very SUITABLE FOR FRAMING. Either or both are excellent for PICTURE PUZZLES, as they are artistic subjects, beautifully printed on HEAVY PAPER.

Good wholesome stories by FASCINATING WRITERS such as HOLMES, BRAEME and others, appeal to all, and this UNIQUE METHOD of distributing them in PORTFOLIOS WITH TWO FREE ART PICTURES, adds additional value and interest to the liberal offers we make.

SPECIAL OFFER. Send one bona fide new subscriber to COMFORT at 25 cents for 15 months, for one subscription, with five cents additional, 30 cents in all for same.

Address: COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



A PAIR OF Nottingham Lace Curtains

Each Curtain Nine Feet Long.

This Most Beautiful and Elegant Premium Has Just Been Added for Selection to All Who Send a

Club of Only 5 New Names.

The Curtains are full width and just what anyone needs to adorn the home with. Everyone of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of Lace Curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as \$6.00 or \$8.00 a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid.

SPECIAL OFFERS. If you will send us a club of only 5 subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send one pair of Curtains to you as a free premium. A club of only nine 25-cent fifteen month subscriptions secures two pairs and we send three pairs for only 14 subscriptions at 25c. each. COMFORT goes to each subscriber 15 months and Curtains to you.

Address: COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

MAUSKIN LADIES' HAND BAG



Here is the latest, newest, most fashionable Ladies' Hand Bag. In offering you this Bag we present a style and material popular everywhere, furthermore we guarantee this bag to wear indefinitely, with ordinary use and care. It is the largest and most expensive Bag we ever undertook to offer, taken all in all it is a premium we are very proud of. Read of the materials, fittings and finish. This new bag is made of Mauskim which in luster and brilliancy is similar to patent leather, but entirely different in texture and wearing qualities, and the particular texture of this bag is not apparent in the illustration. The lining is an exceptionally good quality of mercerized poplin, which would be always mistaken for Moire silk, which is expensive and exclusively used only in bags costing from \$5.00 to \$10.00 each. But the outside and the inside are not all there is to recommend this bag, the double strap handle, the bronzed steel fittings, the change purse made of Mauskim and Poplin with an inside pocket for the change purse. The actual dimensions of this bag are 10-12 inches in length and 7 inches in height. You need have no hesitancy in ordering one of these, and we can safely predict that you will send for another or recommend them to your friends.

Club Offer. One of these above described post-paid as a premium for only 6 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each.

Address: COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

EIGHT INCH TENSION SHEARS

This pair of 8 inch highly nickled, steel, patent tension Shears is the latest and most useful household invention on the market, does away with resharpening entirely and enables the user to set the tension on the rivet so that any kind of material may be cut with perfect ease without tiring the hand. The tension spring takes up all the wear on the rivet, making the SHEARS practically indestructible. A simple turn of the little thumb-screw, shown in the engraving, tightens up the blades as closely as may be desired. The design of the Shears with the bent handle is intended not only for the regular purpose to which the Shears are intended, but likewise, for cutting cloth on a table inasmuch as the peculiar angle of the handle keeps the blade absolutely on a straight line with the top of the cutting surface. Any woman who has had the exasperating experience of trying to use a dull pair of shears can readily appreciate the value of the new invention which keeps this pair of Shears always sharp and in perfect condition. No matter how many pairs of Shears or Scissors you may have around the house, you need this pair with the Tension Spring, and when you get and use it once, you will use it in preference to any other you may have. These Shears are perfectly finished and heavily nickel plated.

Club Offer: Two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months secures one pair eight inch Tension Shears, post-paid. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Piles

Don't run the risk of Fistula and Cancer longer, but let us send you Dr. Van Vleck's 3-fold Soothing Treatment NOW TO TRY FREE

Just Mail the Coupon

To get every sufferer from Piles, Ulcer, Fissure, Prolapse or other Rectal Trouble to try Dr. Van Vleck's 3-fold Absorption Remedy NOW, we will send a regular Dollar package prepaid to everyone who signs and mails us the following coupon, TO TRY FREE. We do this because our faith in Dr. Van Vleck's Treatment is so strong—based not only on our own knowledge, but on the thousands of letters from people all over the world who write us that they have been cured, even after 30 and 40 years of pain, after everything else, including expensive and painful operations, had failed. Don't neglect the first warnings, for authorities agree that a true case of Piles never cures itself; but however far advanced in the ravages of this cruel disease, don't give up hope. Send us the coupon today. Return mail will bring the healing remedy. Try it, satisfy yourself. Then if you are convinced that Dr. Van Vleck really discovered the true cure, send us one dollar. If not, the Remedy costs you nothing. You decide and we take your word. Can you be content to suffer by neglecting such an offer as this? Send us this coupon today—NOW.

"There's Relief in Every Package."

FREE \$1 COUPON

Good for \$1 Package of Dr. Van Vleck's Complete 3-Fold Treatment to be sent Free on Approval, as explained above, to

Name.....
Address.....

Mail this coupon today to Dr. Van Vleck Co., 1256 Majestic Bldg., Jackson, Mich. Return post will bring the \$1 Package on Trial.

Stomach Troubles Vanish Like Magic

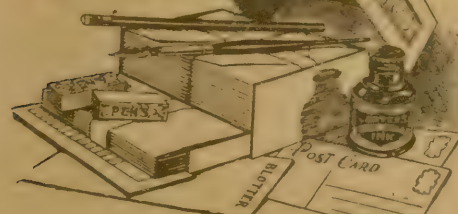
FREE
to
Every Man or Woman



Would you like to eat all you want to, and what you want to without having distress in your stomach? Would you like to say farewell to Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Distress after Eating, Nervousness, Catarrh of the Stomach, Heart Fluttering, Sick Headache and Constipation? Then send us ten cents in silver to cover cost of packing and postage and we will send you absolutely FREE a five-day course of Peptopad Treatment. Peptopad treatment is a combination internal and external treatment and its great success lies in its two-fold power. We strengthen and invigorate the stomach nerves and muscles from the exterior and correct the gastric disturbances from the interior and accomplish both at one time. Peptopad Treatment removes soreness and pain from stomach and bowels and repairs the digestion insuring proper assimilation of the food you eat which means disappearance of constipation as well as stomach trouble. Send 10c in silver for postage and packing today and receive this 5-day course FREE. Dr. G. C. Young Company 839 Patriot Building, Jackson Michigan.

MARRIED BY MISTAKE Most thrilling love story ever written; an absorbingly interesting book of 80 chapters; to quickly introduce our popular fiction magazine; we mail book free to everyone sending 10c. for 3 mos. trial sub. Household Fiction Club, 806 Jackson St., Topeka, Kan.

WRITING SETS GIVEN AWAY



This complete Correspondence Outfit consists of 24 Envelopes, 24 Sheets of Paper contained in a handsomely decorated drawer case. The paper and envelopes are fine finish silk fabric of the purest white linen. One bottle of Carter's Black Ink, one fine grade Penell with attached rubber, one Pen Holder, one sheet of Ruled Black Lines for writing straight across the paper, one box Falcon Pens, one good Blotter and three fancy Post Cards. A high-grade writing combination.

We want to prove our Oxiol Porous 25-cent Plasters almost work wonders in the ill of Rheumatism, Coughs, Pneumonia, Kidney troubles, Stomach disorders, Sprains, Aches, etc., and will give one Writing Set to everyone who will send Six 25-cent Oxiol Porous Plasters and send us the money collected, \$1.50 in all.

We send you the Six Oxiol Porous Plasters on sale. No money required until after you sell them and collect. Say you want the Beautiful Writing Set and we will mail you the Six Oxiol Plasters to sell. Address THE GIANT OXIE COMPANY, 10 WILLOW STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31.)

Elmer Dahlgren, 1618 Piedmont Ave., Duluth, Minn. Both legs amputated. Supported by poor old mother who is nearly past work. Make Christmas bright for this afflicted boy. Mrs. Nelson Flite, Builitsville, Ky. Would like to adopt little girl from one to four years of age. Mrs. Harrington, Boyle, Miss. A widow, would like to find a home for girl of eight and boy of four, where they could be together if possible. Rev. G. H. Flie, Cullman, E. R. 5, Ala. Can give a home to a boy or girl, twelve years of age. Must be healthy and Protestant. Harry T. Hipple, the little invalid of Astoria, L. I. Has passed to his heavenly rest. Harry was the only COMFORT shut-in I have ever seen personally. His father twice brought him to visit me, carrying him to my bedside. Mrs. Della Rosh, Jasper, Mo. Will give home to middle-aged woman. References required. Vernon Stevens, Versailles, E. R. 1, Invalid. Shut-in for twenty-five years. He wants letters and postal cards only.

I have purposely omitted printing a letter from a shut-in this month. This will prevent you from favoring one at the expense of many. Last year I printed over fifty appeals, this year there are less than half that number. There is thus no reason why anyone should be neglected. Santa Claus will not visit a single one of these homes unless you make his visits possible. Make these poor souls forget their miseries for at least one day in the year. Now once more a Merry Christmas to everyone of you. God bless you all. Lovingly yours,

Uncle Charlie

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT'S immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT'S family, only, but these of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C." a handsome certificate of membership with your name engraved thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up. Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT'S Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate. If you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended two full years beyond date of expiration, if you remit 35 cents to your friend.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's 15-month subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for 15 months. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or renewal. The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a 15-month subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost. Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay. Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

UNCLE CHARLIE'S POEMS

Unrivaled! Unequalled!! Unsurpassed!!!

—160 Pages of Rousing Fun—

Only book of really funny verse ever published. Every line a laugh. Every verse a scream. Irresistible! Charming!! Unique!!! You want it, you cannot do without it. Ideal gift for young or old. Elegantly printed. Beautifully bound in ribbed lilac silk. Contains absorbingly interesting sketch of author's life and beautiful pictures of Uncle Charlie. Size 7 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches. For 50c only for only 15-month sub. to COMFORT at 25 cents this magnificent volume will be sent free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Seven-Piece Drinking Set



Lemonade, Water, or Milk Set For Family Use

An entirely new combination Lemonade, Milk and Water Set of seven pieces. The Pitcher has a capacity of three liquid quarts, attractive in design, low and broad with good proportion, and a stout handle. The six cups or mugs have slender, graceful lines with handles and the capacity of the usual drinking glass. The decoration is new both in design and treatment. A large spray of cherries or grapes with green leaves on a ground of color, shading from a solid tone at top to a slight tint at center, the remainder in plain white. The Pitcher and Mugs are finished with a gold rim around edge of each. The illustration deserves your careful attention; observe the size and shape of each piece, the attractive application of the decoration. Clay, imported from England, is used in the make up of these sets. The decoration is underglazed, will not wash or wear off. Although durable, capable of withstanding wear and use, the general effect of decorations and shape is very dainty and charming.

We offer you the Sets in Cherries Red, as shown, also Grapes Blue, and allow you to choose your preference. Each set carefully and skillfully packed and shipped by freight or express.

Club Offer. Send only 10 subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months; state whether you prefer Red or Blue decoration; order will be filled same day. Be sure and give your freight and express office address.



New Rupture Cure

Don't Wear A Truss.



Brooks' Appliance. New discovery. Wonderful. No obnoxious springs or pads. Automatic Air Cushions. Binds and draws the broken parts together as you would a broken limb. No salves. No lymphol. No lies. Durable, cheap. Sent on trial. Pat. Sept. 10, '01.

Catalogue Free.

C. E. BROOKS, 42 B, Brooks Building, Marshall, Mich.

YOUR HEART



Does it Flutter, Palpitate or Skip Beats? Have you Shortness of Breath, Tenderness, Numbness or Pain in left side, Dizziness, Fainting Spells, Spots before the eyes, Sudden Starting in sleep, Nightmare, Hungry or Weak Spells, Oppressed Feeling in chest, Choking Sensation in throat, Painful Breathing, Dropsy, Swelling of the feet or ankles, or Neuralgia around the heart? If you have one or more of the above symptoms of heart disease, don't fail to use Dr. Kinsman's Celebrated Heart Tablets. One out of four has a weak or diseased heart. Three-fourths of these do not know they have heart trouble and thousands die who have been wrongfully treated for the Stomach, Lungs, Kidneys or Nerves. Don't drop dead like hundreds of others, when Dr. Kinsman's Heart Tablets are within your reach.

FREE TREATMENT COUPON

Any sufferer cutting out this coupon and mailing it, with their name and P. O. address, to Dr. F. G. Kinsman, Box 862, Augusta, Maine, will receive a box of Heart Tablets for trial, by return mail, free of charge. Enclose stamp for postage. Don't risk death by delay.

Sister Woman!

READ MY FREE OFFER

My Mission is to make sick women well, and I want to send you, your daughter, your sister, your mother, or any ailing friend, a full 50-cent box of Balm of Figs Compound absolutely free. It is a remedy for the treatment of woman's ailments, and I want to tell you all about it—just how to use it yourself—right at home without any inconvenience—and the best of it is that it will not in the least interfere with your work or pleasure. Balm of Figs Compound is a remedy that has made sick women well and weak women strong, and I can prove it—let me prove it to you, and I will gladly do it, for I have never heard of anything that has, according to the abundance of testimonials at hand, so quickly and surely cured woman's ailments. No internal dosing necessary—it is a local treatment, yet it has to its credit some of the most extraordinary cures on record. Therefore I want to place it in the hands of every woman suffering with any form of Leucorrhoea, Painless Periods, Ulceration, Inflammation, Uterine Displacements, Ovarian or Uterine Tumors or Growths, or any of the weaknesses so common to women.

This 50c box of Balm of Figs Compound will not cost you one cent

I will send it to you absolutely free, to prove to you its splendid qualities, and then if you wish to continue further, it will cost you only a few cents a week. I do not believe there is another remedy equal to Balm of Figs Compound, and I am willing to prove my faith by sending out these 50-cent boxes free. So, dear reader, irrespective of your past experience, write to me at once—today—and I will send you the treatment entirely free by return mail, and if you so desire, I can readily refer you to many, who can personally testify to the great and lasting cures that have resulted from the use of this remedy. But after all, the very best test of anything is a personal trial of it, and I know a 50-cent box of Balm of Figs Compound will convince you of its merits. Nothing is so convincing as the actual test of the article itself. Will you give Balm of Figs Compound this test? Write to me today, and remember I will gladly send you a 50-cent box of this remedy absolutely free.

Address MRS. HARRIET M. RICHARDS, Box C203, Joliet, Ill.

A PRIZE FOR EVERYONE WHO TRIES

Cash Prizes All Sizes—Other Prizes Two Sizes

make it worth your while to CUT THIS PICTURE OUT and fit it together according to directions. If you FIT IT TOGETHER correctly and mail it to us with ONE fifteen-month subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents, before the twentieth of January, AS A PRIZE FOR YOUR SKILL we will send you by return mail 25 Christmas and New Year's Cards, the PRETTIEST, DAINTIEST set you ever saw, new designs all exquisitely done in BRIGHT, HARMONIOUS COLORS and SPLENDID GOLD effects, and beautifully EMBOSSED. The pictures and decorations of these elaborate post cards are the perfection of brilliant contrast and artistic elegance which delights the eye while the APPEALING SENTIMENTS and appropriate SEASON'S GREETINGS with which they are inscribed TOUCH THE HEART OF FRIEND OR SWEETHEART.

UNDERSTAND, all you have to do is to send us ONE 25-cent subscription to COMFORT with the cut-up picture puzzle in order to GET ONE PRIZE SURE, perhaps two prizes, but that subscription MUST NOT BE YOUR OWN nor that of any member of your family.

OR WE WILL SEND YOU 50 OF THESE SPLENDID CARDS, all different designs, if you send us TWO 25-cent subscriptions with the cut-up picture puzzle; but REMEMBER that you have to get both subscriptions outside of your family.

CASH PRIZES ALSO

BESIDES THE CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S CARDS OFFERED above, which you are sure to receive as explained above, we will give for the BEST and MOST NEATLY CUT OUT, FITTED TOGETHER AND MOUNTED COMPLETE PICTURE formed of these cut-up pieces and SENT US WITH ONE OR MORE subscriptions before the twentieth of January

A FIRST PRIZE OF - - - \$3.00 cash
For second best a prize of - - - 2.00 "
For third best a prize of - - - 1.00 "
For fourth best a prize of - - - 1.00 "
For fifth best a prize of - - - 1.00 "
For each of the 10 next best a prize of - .50 each

YOU MAY WIN TWO PRIZES. THE LOVELY CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S CARDS come to you by return mail SURE, if you cut out the picture, fit it together and send it to us with one or more subscriptions as above explained, and if your work in fitting together and mounting the cut-up picture is among the fifteen best you ALSO RECEIVE A CASH PRIZE.

Directions. All the parts of the entire cut-up picture are printed above. Cut out the pieces and fit them mount so as to form the complete picture, and then mail to us with one or more subscriptions. IT'S EASY: IT'S LOTS OF FUN and WINS A PRIZE SURE, perhaps TWO PRIZES.

Address COMFORT'S PICTURE PUZZLE, Dept. H., Augusta, Maine.

Don't Send the Puzzle to Us Unless You Send the Subscription with the Money. Read offer carefully. We do not give a box of Cards with your own subscription.

Three Quart Pitcher Six Handled Cups

Cherries Red, Grapes Blue, Solid Gold Lined Edges, Extremely Effective Decoration



Lemonade, Water, or Milk Set For Family Use

An entirely new combination Lemonade, Milk and Water Set of seven pieces. The Pitcher has a capacity of three liquid quarts, attractive in design, low and broad with good proportion, and a stout handle. The six cups or mugs have slender, graceful lines with handles and the capacity of the usual drinking glass. The decoration is new both in design and treatment. A large spray of cherries or grapes with green leaves on a ground of color, shading from a solid tone at top to a slight tint at center, the remainder in plain white. The Pitcher and Mugs are finished with a gold rim around edge of each. The illustration deserves your careful attention; observe the size and shape of each piece, the attractive application of the decoration. Clay, imported from England, is used in the make up of these sets. The decoration is underglazed, will not wash or wear off. Although durable, capable of withstanding wear and use, the general effect of decorations and shape is very dainty and charming.

We offer you the Sets in Cherries Red, as shown, also Grapes Blue, and allow you to choose your preference. Each set carefully and skillfully packed and shipped by freight or express.

Club Offer. Send only 10 subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months; state whether you prefer Red or Blue decoration; order will be filled same day. Be sure and give your freight and express office address.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

LADIES' GOLD SHELL RINGS

YOU CAN GET ONE FOR A CLUB OF ONLY FOUR



Opal.

The boys should get one for their sweethearts. They make a swell present. We will give one ring free for a club of only four 15 mo. subscribers at 25 cents each.



Emerald.

These Rings Are Free. We bought these rings to give away and the following offers are liberal enough to enable every reader to own one at once. Mothers should have one. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

WE GIVE THIS WATCH

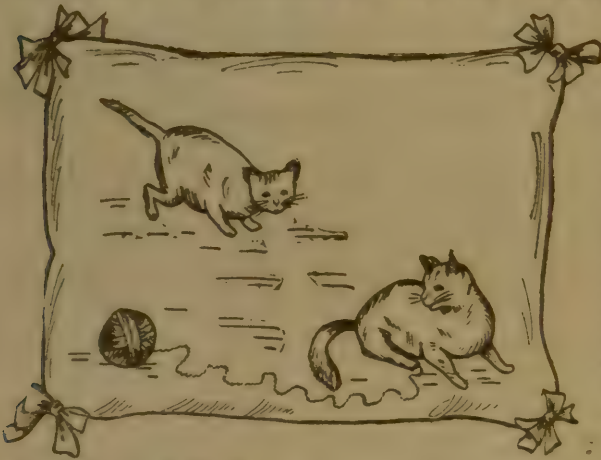
For a Club of Five.



Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but for practical everyday use they are no better timekeepers. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get a club of 5 subscribers to COMFORT, at our special subscription price of 25 cents for 15 months. Do this, sending us the money with the names, and we will send COMFORT to each subscriber and we will send you the watch to reward you. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get subscriptions and send us NOW at once, we will also send you a nice chain. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

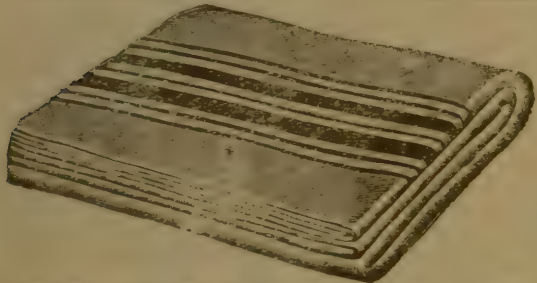
A CAT PILLOW IN A COMBINATION OF

HAND PAINTING AND OUTLINE EMBROIDERY



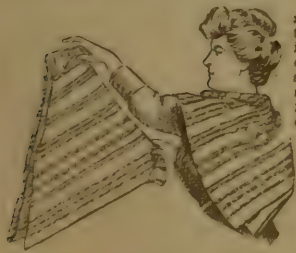
Is a Cute, Pleasing Design of Frolicking Kittens, a subject which is sure to amuse the young and old and add to the cheerfulness of any room. Combination means that when you receive this pillow the design will be hand painted in a beautiful blending of colors and you are to outline the whole design in a dark shade of mercerized cotton. Painted on Art Pillow Cloth of an exquisite green or softest shade of yellow, this outline embroidery produces an effect that can be had in no other way. It will "bring out" the playful attitude of the Kittens, giving a "raised" appearance which greatly adds to the beauty of the pillow which is 22x22 inches square. Send a new 15-month 25-cent subscriber with 5 cents extra, 30 cents in all, and we will give you the above described pillow. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.

A Soft, Warm White Blanket



well made and well finished. Size 55 inches wide and 72 inches long, of good weight. Supplied with the borders worked in fancy colors on the white ground. Large, warm, comfortable blankets for standard size beds. Regardless of advance in costs of raw cotton we have bought a quantity of these blankets at unusually low prices and are certain they are of unusual quality and exceptionally well made. Think of this big warm blanket on your own bed or laying on the shelf for use when needed what a feeling of satisfaction it gives one. CLUB OFFER. For only eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you either post-paid or express free one of these 55x72 White Blankets and you may have either blue or white border.

FOR MOTHER'S SHOULDERS OR THE BABY



We have bought in this connection one of the very best things in the way of a warm wrap for the baby or for the mother to use in and about the home that we have ever seen. Made of softest warm flannelette. 30x40 inches in size, and they come in two colors, soft dull pink and blue stripes over white, at either end are wider stripes and the blue one has both the wider stripes and a bit of variegated color at the ends. These small blankets are something very new; in all the city stores where shown they are selling rapidly. We could not resist offering this quick; without illustration our description must convey to you what a splendid little blanket this is and how useful it will be about the baby; awake or asleep, as a shoulder throw it cannot be equalled by anything hand knit or made up at home. The edges are finished with buttonhole stitch and the whole idea is just splendid and we know that wherever seen others will be wanted.

Club Offer. To introduce them we will at first offer one free, post-paid for only two subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, or for a club of ten subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send both the large and small Blankets. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.

A Speaking and Sleeping DOLL FREE

Can Say PAPA and MAMA
I am the Prettiest, Daintiest, Sweetest
Lace-Dressed Doll you ever saw

Observe my Beautiful Raiment. Lace-trimmed Gown and Hat. Openwork Hose, Low Shoes with Buckle and all sorts of frills and furbelows.

This newest premium is a Special Extra Large Size Imported French Doll, over a foot tall, and can be made to sleep and speak. To be exact, she measures sixteen and one-half inches from the sole of her feet to the top of her lace hat, requiring a big box eighteen inches long to pack her in. It is one of the most beautifully dressed Dolls ever given away as a premium for so few subscriptions or for such little effort as we require.

This is a wonder Doll and will positively please every little or big girl who receives her from us. Her pretty head is made of bisque, with long, natural curls; her handsome costume of lustrous silk finish; latest fancy trimmed, lace-bordered HAT; lace-trimmed underwear; openwork stockings, dainty low shoes with buckles, etc., etc. She is dressed throughout in the latest Doll fashion.

Our illustration does not do her justice; we can only show about how splendid she is. It would be impossible to show up her charms and graces, but you get a very good idea, and will be delighted when you receive and open the package and see her; and to see her is to love her, she is such a GRAND DOLL BEAUTY.

CLUB OFFER.

For only six 15-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send free and post-paid, one of these magnificent, large Dressed Dolls.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Cathedral Angel Chimes

Three Sweet Musical Bells. A New and Striking Musical Novelty Suitable both for Ornament and Amusement all the year round.



Cathedral Angel Chimes consist of 5 beautiful Angels with trumpets, 3 candle sticks with 6 beautiful colored wax candles, 3 tuned bells and a turbine motor. Surmounting the whole, imposed over the turbine, the Herald Angel with trumpet, the machine being twelve inches high and six inches broad. The body of the chimes is made of nickel-plated metal, the turbine is finished in blue enamel with gilt stars. Then we have an added feature in our New Chimes; under the three musical bells is a metal tablet upon which in eight or more colors is the beautiful picture of the Birth of Christ in a Manger. The effect is as though it were hand painted, and is very beautiful and inspiring.

The Chimes are so constructed that when the candles are lighted the turbine revolves, the rising hot air from the candles giving the power that causes the turbine motor to revolve, the pendants strike gently on the bells in succession, and as the bells differ in size, sweet musical tones are produced. The effect is wonderful and unusually pleasing; not only is the soft tinkling of the bells a delight to the ear, but the brilliancy of the reflection of the candle flames on the highly polished silver-like metal parts lends delight to the occasion and entrances the old or the young. A set should be in every home, to be used at all times or for decorative purposes at Christmas or any other time, especially suitable for table decoration in sitting- or dining-room, making a splendid centerpiece, and one never tires of the sweet chimes tinkling. Being entirely of metal, they are absolutely unbreakable, can be used indefinitely by renewing candles from time to time, as used for Birthdays, Parties, Balls, Christmas, or other festivities. Each is packed in a separate box with full instructions how to put together and operate. Any one can do it and we warrant every machine to work to satisfaction.

Club Offer.

For a club of only four 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a complete set of Cathedral Angel Chimes, post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SIDEBOARD AND BUREAU SCARF



Also two nine-inch dollies to match. This scarf design is stamped on fine quality material 60 inches in length, 18 inches wide, over ONE THOUSAND SQUARE INCHES; the largest pattern outfit we ever offered. In addition are two large dolly designs making a complete bureau or sideboard set that will please our lady readers. The edge of the scarf is to be worked in buttonhole stitch, the design in the center to be embroidered in long and short outline, stitch or solid. The two dollies may be worked the same; this makes a complete set that will be very useful and gain the envy and admiration of your friends. We send a circular describing many other patterns; all are free to you. Special Offer: For a club of two 15-months subscriptions to COMFORT we send this stamped pattern free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THE CHOICEST GIFT

The Season's Best Offer

HIGH GRADE GENTLEMEN'S WATCH FREE.



A most attractive, thin model, Nickel Silver case, full bassine model. Antique bow and crown. Stem wind and set. American made, jeweled lever escapement, tool steel pinions, highly polished pivots, Damascus plated plates.

White enamel dial with new style slant Arabic figures. So much for the technical description as supplied by the maker. In addition to this you have the assurance of the Publisher of COMFORT that you are offered a strictly high-grade, modern timepiece, as good as can be made by expert American Mechanics, there are higher grade and higher cost watches, but no similar watch has ever been offered that presents the value, quality and splendid appearance of this watch. Not a silver watch nor a gold watch, but a substantial NICKEL-SILVER case, that will wear for years and always present the appearance of a watch costing from \$20.00 to \$25.00 and as a timekeeper they are unequalled.

The Best all-round gift for a Gentleman is a good timepiece, and the best opportunity to secure one without cost is presented to you now, in the liberal offer below.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL BARGAIN

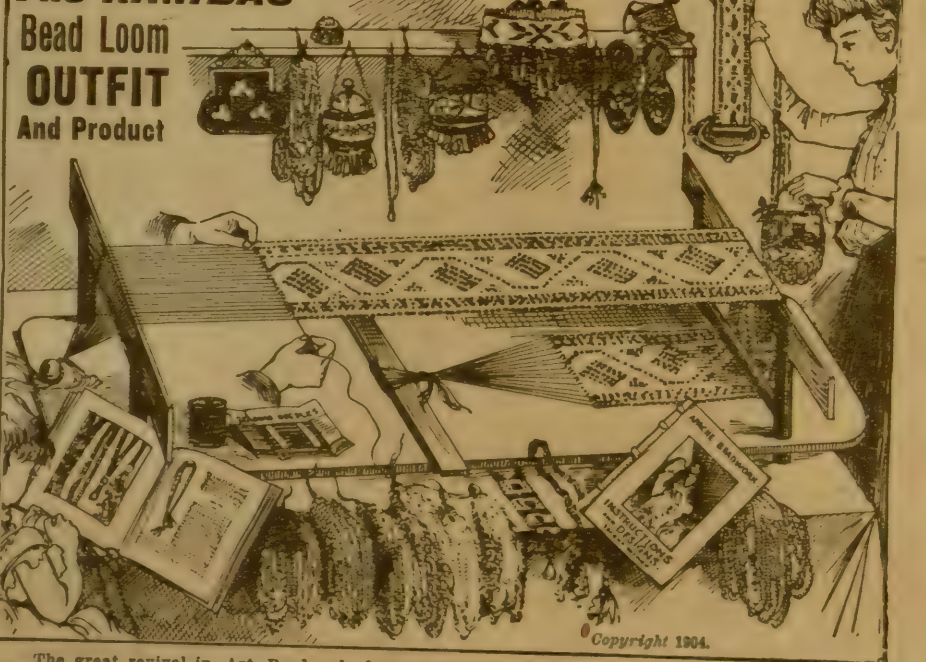
For the Holiday Season to enable thousands of our readers to embrace this splendid opportunity we will send one of these watches for a club of only nine subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. Usually we should require nearly twice that number. Order early. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

14,000 BEADS @ LOOM OUTFIT FREE

PROFITABLE BEADWORK AT HOME MAKING BAGS, CHAINS, NECKLACES, PURSES, BELTS, COLLARS AND CUFFS, SHIRT-WAIST SETS, SLIPPERS, WATCH CASES, FOB WATCH CHAINS, CARD CASES, POCKETBOOKS, WRIST BAGS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, ETC., ETC.

The KANIBAS

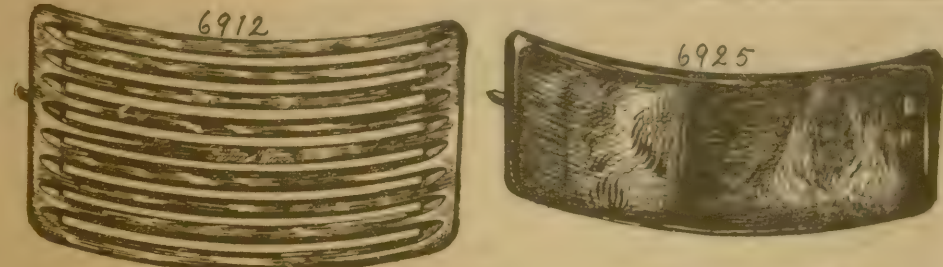
Bead Loom OUTFIT And Product



The great revival in Art Beadwork has brought about a Wonderful Loom Invention for easily doing this fascinating work. The product of the Penobscot Indians of Maine as well as the Apache Tribes, has made them famous the world over. For thousands of years Venice has produced wonderful beads. Columbus first brought articles of Venetian Beadwork to America that completely fascinated the early settlers. Now the most dainty and artistic costumes are not complete without a dash of beautiful color such as can only be gotten from these same exquisite shades of artistically arranged beads. That beadwork is entirely practical can be proven by its thousands of years of usefulness. No art in existence has given the world more profitable employment or genuine happiness than bead working; the articles that are now being made with beads sell for many times the cost of material—all that is necessary is a little time and patience for any one to become proficient in the art. With the invention of this Bead Loom, the mechanical possibilities of which are nearly unlimited, the simplicity of weaving the beads is at once astonishing and rapid. The old-fashioned work was mostly knit after the beads were strung yards at a time, when the miscount of even a single bead would throw the pattern all over the design. All of our grandmothers' beautiful designs can now be reproduced with half the expenditure of energy and nerve force. Another wonderful help is the use of the holding a lot of beads at one time and doing the work easily and rapidly. The Kanibas Loom as illustrated shows the method of working, the hands holding the needle and thread, giving an idea of the progress of the warp in making a Belt or Woven Chain. The outfit consists of 1 Kanibas Loom, 3 Bunches of Beads, 3 Bunches Green Beads, 3 Bunches White Beads, 3 Bunches Pink Beads, 3 Bunches Blue Beads, 1 Paper containing a dozen Special Bead Needles, 1 Gold worker of Instruction and Design. This great book was gotten up especially to show some of the wonderful possibilities of Artistic Beadwork. It has a beautiful photograph cover and contains just what color beads to use and how to work them; it shows some of the Lady Washington Bags illustrated from these old Revolutionary articles themselves that cannot now be bought for hangings, purses, etc., etc. Giving full directions for all designs. All the popular Secret Order Emblem can be worked with great effect in beads for Fob Chains, Bags, Collars, Cuffs and Dress Order Odd Fellow, Royal Arcanum, and other styles with directions. Some of the Bag designs shown from doing the work. It only requires your time to make beads cost so little that very large profits come from doing the work. The entire outfit above described absolutely Free. So popular and instructive has beadwork now become in teaching color schemes that the educational boards have adopted Loom Bead Instruction and introduced it in all large city schools.

Club Offer. For a club of only five 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we deliver the entire outfit free. Get up your club now. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I Can Say Papa and Mama and also Close My Eyes FREE for Only Six Subscribers



New Hair Ornaments In Charming Designs.

These several new numbers in Combs, Barrettes and Pins represent Fashion's latest decree and the newest things from Paris.

Every lady finds use for such sensible and practical Hair Ornaments and will appreciate the dignified patterns we have chosen and here offer, and we represent each one in about two-thirds full size.

Especially note No. 4445. A Bandeau for the little girls and older ones, too. Very fashionable, and in the Summer when hats are off the hair is better kept in place with this than any sort of Combs.

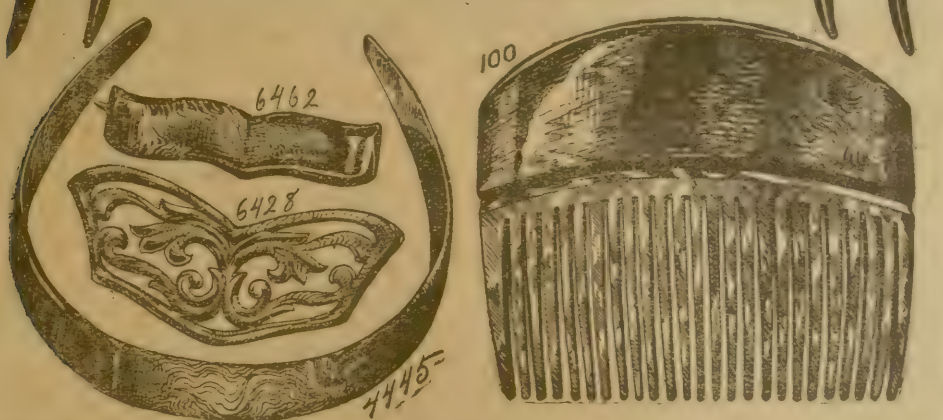
The Barrettes, four in number represent as many sizes and each is very desirable, neat and attractive.

Fancy Pins are always in demand and the Back Comb needs no comments.

Our other numbers, elsewhere advertised are in stock at all times.

Both Amber and Imitation Tortoise Shell supplied in all numbers.

CLUB OFFER. One back comb, your choice of a Barrette or TWO Fancy Pins for a club of two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. Any Barrette, Comb or Pair of Pins or a Bandeau for one new 25-cent subscription and ten cents extra. 35 cents in all. We have Bandeau No. 4445 in two widths, order narrow or wide, whichever you prefer. And say whether you want Amber or Shell. Amber is light and Shell is dark. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



THIS BEAUTIFUL NARCISSUS ASSORTMENT EXTRA HEAVY SILVER PLATED WARE.

Now offered in eleven different pieces comprising an elaborate and complete assortment. Especially desirable Wedding Gift, equally as desirable to all housekeepers.

Unless you have some of the Spoons in this pattern you have no idea how beautiful it is, with the soft gray frosted handle with high polished blades or bowls. You may think you have enough silverware now; even if you have a variety there is always use for more, especially such very Beautiful ware as we now offer you, and COMFORT is such a great monthly, people readily subscribe, so you actually will obtain these Spoons for but a moment's time.



Club Offers. We have arranged the following schedule of club offers, enabling you to obtain free as much of the assortment as you require, if not all.
For only two 25c. subscriptions to COMFORT, we will send your choice: Six Teaspoons, Two Tablespoons, a Dessert-spoon, Sugar Shell, or Butter Knife. For only three subscriptions to COMFORT, we will send your choice: either a Gravy Ladle, Pie Knife, Cold Meat Fork, or Berry Spoon. For a club of twelve subscriptions to COMFORT, a set of Six Knives and Six Forks. A club of thirty subscriptions to COMFORT for the entire assortment of 26 pieces. All must be 25c. fifteen-months subscriptions. Carefully look over the different articles and decide which ones you desire most then first send in a small trial club for sample after that we are sure you will get the entire assortment when you find how nice the goods are. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

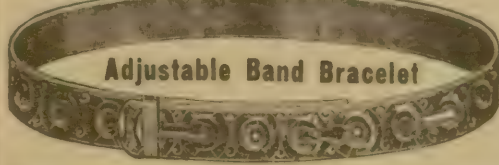
FREE This Beautiful Monogram Dinner Set of 42 Pieces

Each Piece Decorated with your Initial in Gold. Positively the Biggest and Finest Dinner Set ever Given Away as a Free Present. Any Lady Can Earn this Set in a Few Hours' Time.

This beautiful Monogram Dinner Set, full size, for family use, consisting of 42 pieces just as shown, is a present that will bring delight to the heart of any housewife and can be had absolutely free of charge for a few hours' easy, pleasant work among your neighbors and the people of your vicinity. This set is made of finest Parisian china, is a pure delicate white and decorated with wild rose design in colors, with the edges traced in gold. It is a set of dishes that you will be proud to own and put on your table and show your friends.

Your own initial in pure gold will be on every piece except the cups and saucers. The set consists of six large plates, six dessert plates, six large cups and saucers, six sauce or fruit dishes, six butter plates, two large vegetable dishes, one large platter, one cake plate, one bread plate, and one gravy bowl, making 42 separate pieces, positively the grandest array of dishes ever offered for this small amount of work.

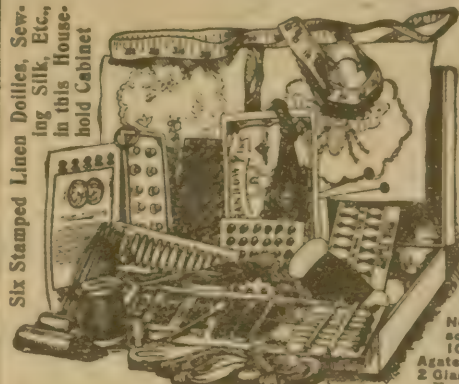
Club Offer: For only 14 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for fifteen months we will present you with one of these beautiful Monogram 42-Piece Dinner Sets. The set will be carefully packed and shipped by freight upon receipt of the club order. Remember only 14 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents for 15 months procure this Gold Decorated 42-Piece Initial Dinner Set. State what initial wanted when ordering. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



WARRANTED TO WEAR FIVE YEARS Will Perfectly Fit Largest or Smallest Wrist

As shown in illustration, it is a beautifully engraved band of gold one quarter inch wide, has three adjustment slots and a pin. The pin may be put in first slot for largest size, in last slot for smallest size and in center for medium. It is a simple, practical adjustment that does just what it is intended to do and does it well. You cannot lose this Bracelet. Warranted for five years; meaning, the gold finish is durable a new style and new idea this season, you all want one right off while they are fashionable. We are making extra special inducements for clubs, so we have purchased this Bracelet in such quantities we are enabled to offer them to you now at a tremendous bargain rate.

Club Offer. Send us only one new 15-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one of these beautiful Bracelets free. It positively must be a new subscription. Send 10 cents extra, 35 cents in all, if for your own sub. or a renewal. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Complete Household Cabinet

Containing over two hundred different articles always useful in and around the home, particularly to the mother who must do all the making and mending. The assortment of articles has been put together, after repeated calls for such an outfit, in convenient arrangement to provide the great variety of really useful and much wanted articles most likely to be needed. Each article is of full size and good quality and is such as you would usually purchase at any store. The following list of contents of each package will at once convince you we have made a good selection and in the right quantities.

1 Aluminum Thimble, standard size and weight. 1 Card with 3 doz. best quality Shoebuttons. 1 Paper with 2 doz. best Hooks and Eyes. 1 Card Household Mending Cotton. 1 Linen Tape Measure, 60 in. long. 1 Paper with 400 best quality Toilet Pins. 1 Card with 1 doz. Safety Pins. 1 Card with 6 doz. Pearl Lintle Agate Buttons. 1 Tube with 50 Invisible Hairpins. 1 Paper best quality straight Hairpins. 6 Skeins of 5 yds. each Embroidery Cotton, assorted colors. 6 Stamped Linen Dailies in assorted Designs. 4 Papers of Needles, Sharps, sizes 5, 6, 7, 8/10. 7 Ladies' Shawl Pins, assorted sizes, glass heads. 1 Tape Bodkin. 4 Darning Needles. 10 Embroidery Needles. 1 Glass Buttoner. 1 Key-Ring. 1 Doz. Agate Collar Buttons. 1 Doz. Best Kid Curlers. 1 Spool Linen Thread. 2 Glass-head Hat Pins. 1 Pair Shoelaces. 1 Pair Corset Laces. Each Cabinet packed ready for shipment and positively contains all articles as described. A nice present for mother.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only four 15-mo subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we send this Cabinet of useful articles, post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Imported Scotch Turkey Red Cloth.

A superior quality genuine Scotch imported Turkey red damask table-cloth, fringed. These table covers are of heavy weight, closely woven material, with heavy fringe, and the designs are all up-to-date floral effects that are very attractive, guaranteed fast color. Size 60 x 60 inches.

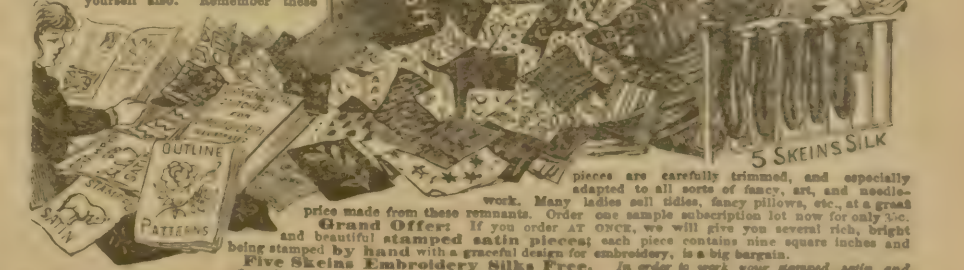
Club Offer. Send only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months and receive one of these Scotch Turkey Red Table-Cloths. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



A Silken Shower from a Necktie Factory. A Big Lot of Real Silk, also Plush and Stamped Satin

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK.

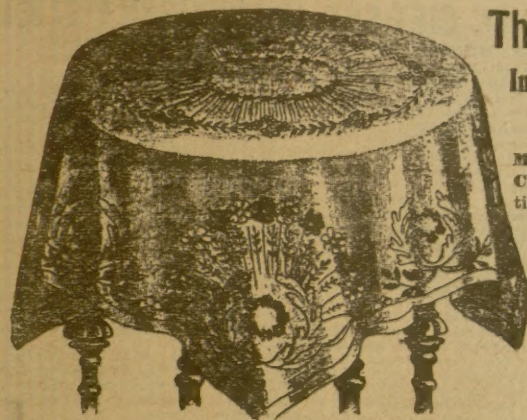
ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin—"CRAZY QUILT" making is again VERY POPULAR. We are sure we have a bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright, handsome, odd-shaped, and pretty colored goods accumulate very fast at all EXCITE FACTORIES; the styles were never so bright and accurate as they have been the past season and they are now burdened with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into soft-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. Our packages contain from 99 to 199 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get our great monthly and a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these



price made from these remnants. Order one sample subscription lot now for only 5c. **Grand Offer:** If you order AT ONCE, we will give you several rich, bright and beautiful stamped satin pieces; each piece contains nine square inches and being stamped by hand with a graceful design for embroidery, is a big bargain. **Five Skeins Embroidery Silks Free.** In order to work your stamped satin and other pieces, we also send absolutely FREE, five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you ORDER ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer besides giving you a large and elegant piece of silk.

BEST WAY. We send ONE of the above complete assorted lots FREE as a reward to all who send 25 cents for 15 months' subscription to "COMFORT," the best Home Monthly now published, and in order to get you to advertise "COMFORT" and this big bargain to your friends and neighbors, we will send free with each package, our great book With Eight Full-Page Illustrations for ornamenting the seams of Crazy Patchwork, or for other ornamental work where Fancy Stitches are used, it has no equal. It shows how pieces for patchwork may be put together to get the best effect, how to cover up seams with fancy stitches, how to join edges, etc. The book illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these, besides directions for taking ART EMBROIDERY STITCHES comprising the Outline Stitch, and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, Ribbon Work, Plush or Tufted Stitch, etc. It also tells how to do Kensington Painting.

REMEMBER we send one big lot (over 100 pieces) Silk Remnants, the assorted stamped satin piece, 5 SKEINS Embroidery silk, plush, and a great book on embroidery together with 15-months subscription to lot free. Three lots and 15 mos. subscription, 65c.; five lots and subscription, for \$1.00. Address COMFORT, Silk Dept. 4, Augusta, Maine.



This Exquisite Table Cover In a Beautiful Pattern Especially Designed Outline for Embroidery

Made from a new material called Yachting Cloth with real Irish Linen finish, in a beautiful shade of light brown that will harmonize with all shades of embroidery silk or cotton and is especially designed for table covers. The stamping includes a centerpiece as well as a border of an unusually graceful design and is one yard square.

For two 15-mo. subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each will be given this beautiful cover, which can be used in any room. It is worth working for. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THIS BIG POST CARD ALBUM FREE

ALSO LOTS OF CARDS FREE

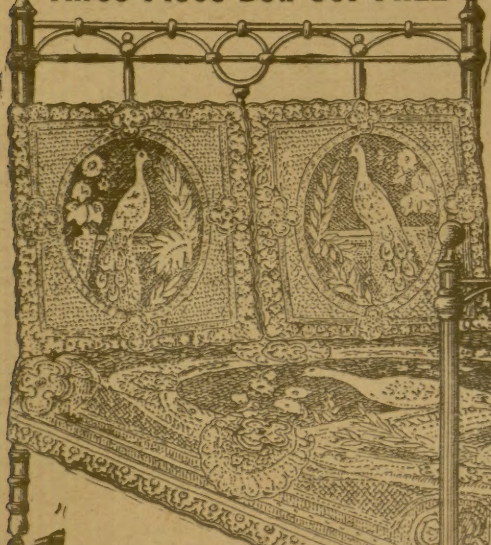
To go with ALBUMS. As long as they last you get Cards and ALBUMS and COMFORT at these liberal terms.

Club Offer Send 25 cents for a 15-month subscription to COMFORT, with 5 cents extra, 30 cents in all, for an Album and 15 cards. We give a fine lot of cards free with each album so you have an assortment of 15 beautiful cards, comprising all the popular subjects, such as Christmas, New Year's and Santa Claus, embossed in gold floral, birthday and sentiment, greeting cards, views of public buildings, bird and landscape cards as well as special Easter designs. You will miss a great big opportunity if you let this offer escape you. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.

DON'T MISS THIS PREMIUM

We show this album as it opens, showing that four cards may be displayed before you on the 2 pages, also each leaf accommodates four cards, two front and back; the entire album accommodates fifty cards. You preserve and exhibit cards at same time. The average post-card collector would naturally require three or four of these albums every year, now that post cards are produced in such various seasonal subjects. One could fill an album with all different Christmas cards and again with birthday cards received from friends who are residing at a distance or traveling. In this way one can arrange and classify their cards and they will then be preserved in a nice way and when you want to show them to your friends they are presentable in a tasteful arranged manner for exhibition.

Three-Piece Bed Set FREE



CLUB OFFER

For a club of only ten subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for fifteen months we will send by mail or express at our expense one of these Nottingham Lace Three-Piece Bed Sets. This is an exceptionally liberal premium offer.

Three-Piece Nottingham

Lace Bed Set

Beautiful Peacock Design
Pillow Sham and Spread

The full-size spread is 85 inches long and 60 inches wide. Made of fine quality material in this most beautiful pattern. Then two handsome and effective Pillow Shams to match, made of same material in same manner and 28 x 32 inches in size. Such a Bed Set as this must appeal to your good taste. They are very, very desirable, extremely fashionable and are something every good housekeeper is anxious to possess.

The beautiful White Lace Spread covers the entire bed, the Shams cover the pillows, and the graceful peacock design distinctly stands out, completes the picture and enraptures you. The Peacock on the spread is very large, very stately and graceful, the spread of tall feathers is natural and effective. No lace design ever striking than this. Suitable for standard size bed and pillows. You should have a set

for each chamber. If you happen to be one of our thousands of agents who have our Lace Curtains in your home, you will at once feel that you must have also one of these three-piece Lace Bed Sets. They harmonize splendidly.

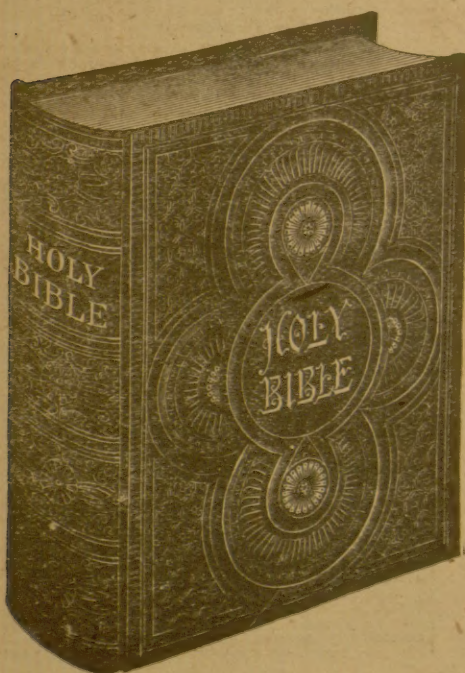
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A FAMILY BIBLE

THE WORDS OF CHRIST PRINTED IN RED

WITH

Marriage Certificate, Family Record and Colored Maps.



Printed from new plates cast from new type set this year. New Self-Proneouncing Family Bible containing: The Authorized Version of the Old and New Testaments; The words of Christ are all printed in red in this new 1904 edition and although much more expensive to produce is an added feature free of any cost to you. The Standard Concordance; A Self-Proneouncing Dictionary of Proper Names; Maps in Colors; Over 100 Full-Page and other Illustrations; Index to Old and New Testaments; Marriage Certificate; Family Temperance Pledge; Family Record, etc., etc.

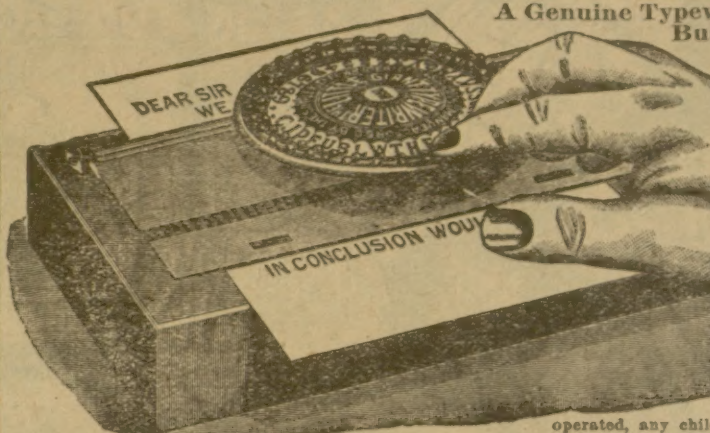
The largest and best illustrated Bible ever produced for the money. Size 12 1/2 x 10 1/4. This edition excels all others in the excellence of paper and exquisite typography, being printed from an entirely new set of plates costing many thousands of dollars. The size of the pages is 12 1/2 x 9 1/4 inches the print large and clear and over 100 full-page and other illustrations. The colored maps of the points of Biblical interest and a feature not found with the ordinary Bible and are of great help to Bible students and teachers. These and the other features mentioned above make this edition an invaluable one and it should appeal to those who are in need of a thorough and complete Bible. These Bibles are bound in Morocco Buckram Paneled Sides, with the words, "Holy Bible," on the side and back, stamped in gold, combed edges. Contains over 1,000 pages and weighs over 5 pounds. Specimen page showing size of sheet and type free upon application. Remember the Red Letter feature.

Club Offer. We will send by mail or express at our expense one of these 1,000-page Bibles exactly as we have described it for a club of only 12 subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

TYPEWRITERS FOR EVERYBODY

A Genuine Typewriting Machine for
Business and Personal
Correspondence



Writes very distinctly and most as fast as some machines costing \$10.00 or more. A thoroughly reliable and very satisfactory instrument. It is now the style in this busy world to write business letters on typewriters, thus the readers cannot mistake any word or character in the letter, besides typewriting can be read very quickly, and envelopes with typewritten addresses are promptly handled by Post Office clerks. Every office and family should now have a Typewriter. This machine has 26 characters, every letter in the alphabet and the numerals from 1 to 10; is easily understood and operated, any child can write on it after two hours' practice and older people will grasp the

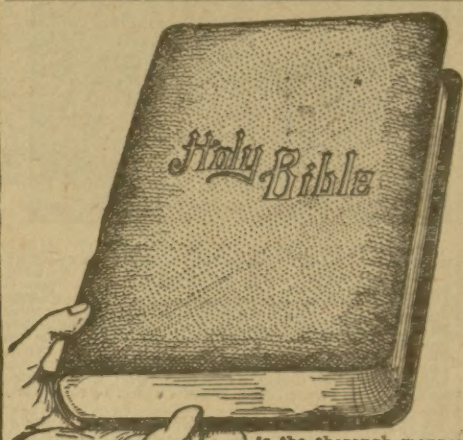
idea at once. With each machine are sent full directions for operating and an extra supply of best quality copying ink, the whole carefully packed and sent at our expense.

Special. If you will send us a club of only 4 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for fifteen months we will send COMFORT to each subscriber and the typewriter and complete outfit to you as an award for your effort.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

COMPLETE HOLY BIBLE.

After repeated requests from our thousands of readers and club workers, we are prepared to furnish a COMPLETE HOLY BIBLE, in a smaller size than our regular Family Bible. The new offering is indeed a perfect charm; a thoroughly complete Bible, consisting of over 850 pages, with nine colored maps, soft binding, half padded, round corners, finished with red edges, is five and a half inches long, three and a half inches wide and nearly an inch thick, weighing half a pound. It is a thorough Bible with full and complete books of the old and new testaments. For Sunday School workers, teachers and students, or for a convenient pew Bible, this is an unequalled opportunity to secure a big little Bible that will please. By co-operating with a Bible maker and a Bindery, we were enabled to dictate terms and agreed to purchase an enormous quantity during the next year if a low price would be made, in order that we might give our hosts of friends and readers at least one grand opportunity to procure one or more Bibles for their own use or as gifts, knowing well enough that we shall receive many second orders from our first purchasers. Modern machinery and skilled workmen produce these Bibles in quantities made in the highest order of workmanship. Each and every Bible is sent with a guarantee that it is perfect in each and every detail; and what will please you most



is the thorough manner in which they are bound and finished. The soft padded covers are the same as in FULL MOROCCO BIBLES costing \$10.00 each. Please do not send for this Bible expecting to receive a great, big book by express; we offer the FAMILY BIBLE elsewhere. This small Bible is for the same purpose, but is more convenient to carry about. Knowing we shall receive second orders from those who send for one of these Bibles, we are making a specially attractive introduction proposition below.

OUR OFFER. We will send you one of these Holy Bibles as a free premium gift only four 15 mo. subscribers to this magazine at 25 cents each, delivered post-paid to your home.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SPLENDID THREE-PIECE SILVER SET

The Smaller Round Dish

for Candy, Olives, Nuts,
Whipped Cream or Pickles.

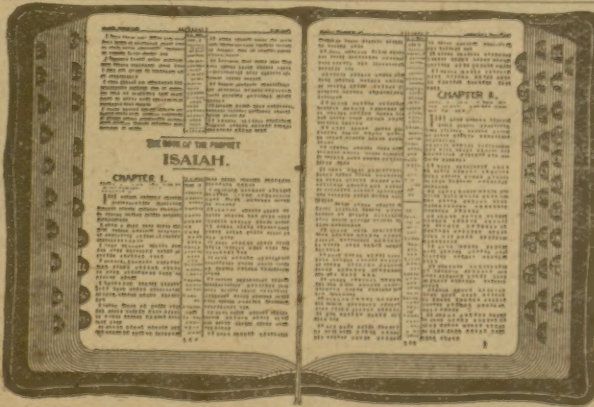
The Seven-Inch Dish
for Salad, Fruit,
Nuts and Candy.



The illustration represents only the general style of the three-piece set. One gets no idea from this of the unusual beauty, nor of the effectiveness of this ruffled silver effect. The whole set or single pieces will prove exceptionally useful. A cream pitcher, sugar bowl and the large dish make up the set. The large dish may be used for berries, fruit, nuts, whipped cream, jelly, preserves or other purposes, or if preferred as an ornament for the table or mantle, but the pitcher will be useful daily on the dining table, or may be kept for best, and the same with the sugar bowl, which will oftentimes be of use for other things, such as olives, nuts or whipped cream. These sets are unusually large, full size, practical size, the big bowl is seven inches in diameter, four inches high, with capacity of at least three pints, the sugar bowl and cream pitcher are of just the right size, four feet and handles. Each piece is gold lined and will positively wear for years and give entire satisfaction.

Club Offer. Send only 8 15-month subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for this Gold Lined Silver Set of three pieces, which will be sent by mail or express prepaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Flexible Morocco BIBLE FREE

ILLUSTRATED

With 32 full-page half
tone pictures and 16
full-page colored maps-

GOLD EDGES

Containing the King James,
Version of the Old and
New Testaments.

These Bibles are unsurpassed for clear print, extra quality of paper, handsome flexible bindings, superior workmanship. Our illustrations show the Bible in various positions; laying flat open you see just how distinct is the type, the thumb index and the expansive leather binding, also the closed Bible with elastic band which protects the same when not in use, and in lower right-hand corner we show how the Bible may be rolled absolutely without injury.

Also New Helps to the Study of the Bible

Prepared by the Most Eminent Authorities

The Sunday School Teacher's use of the Bible. How to study the Bible. The Christian Worker and his Bible. Scripture Texts for students and Workers. Forty Questions and Answers from the Word of God. Calendar for Daily Reading of the Scriptures, by which the Bible may be read through in one year. The Chronology and History of the Bible and its Related Periods. Table of Prophetic Books. Period intervening between the Age of Malachi, (450 B. C.) and the Birth of Christ. Summary of the Gospel Incidents and Harmony of the Four Gospels.

This is a splendid opportunity to obtain a practical, useful Bible, a new edition in a beautiful, durable and flexible leather binding, with gold stamped title on back and cover.

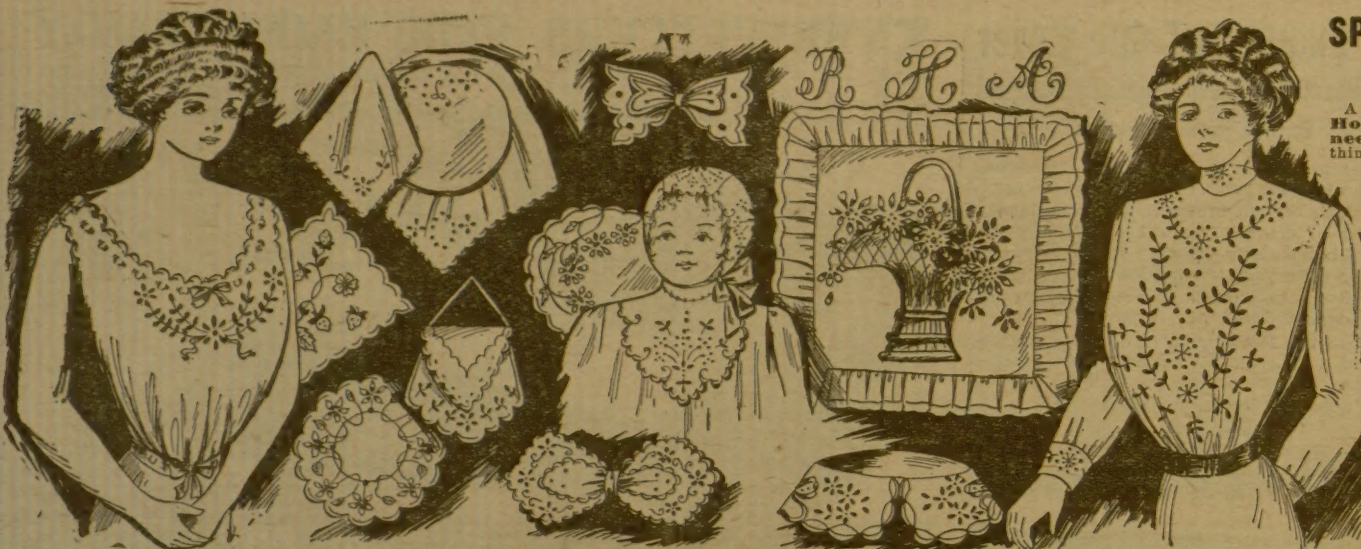
CLUB OFFER.

For a club of only ten subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for 15 Months we send one of these above described Bibles, post-paid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

HOLY
BIBLE

INTERNATIONAL
TEACHERS



Child's Merino Vest

NO PINS, NO BUTTONS
For Infants and Children. Double Breasted,
Puts on Like a Coat.



At last we have an Infants' and Children's Vest which has all the desirable qualities and features of the best garments on the market with none of the objectionable features, and it also has many exclusive points, which add greatly to the comfort and health protection of the child, as well as convenience to the mother.

FOR CONVENIENCE, FASTENS IN FRONT!

It is a source of discomfort to the child and inconvenience to the Mother to put on the old-style vest that "goes over the head," or if the vest be one that "goes on like a coat" and FASTENS IN THE BACK, the infant must be turned over to fasten the vest with pin or button, which is an additional discomfort and inconvenience. The lower fastening below the abdomen keeps the shirt always in proper position. It cannot work up.

The VANTA VEST goes on like a coat and it FASTENS IN FRONT.

Any way you look at it, the VANTA VEST is so far superior to any other undergarment that we feel sure you will recognize its popularity as the most practical VEST from all view points.

VANTA VEST IS MANUFACTURED

Of only the softest yarns, from the Australian wools knitted into the most durable fabric. The VANTA VEST is thoroughly shrunk before cutting, and positively will not shrink or lose its shape.

Directions for washing sent with each vest. For only two subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send post-paid one of the above described child's vests. Sizes 1, 2 and 3. Mention size required, and address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Hot for Ice Skating
BEST OF WINTER SPORTS

An innovation in the construction of men's and boys' one piece steel skates. Unit construction makes a stronger, safer skate than old methods.

A slender skate is an unsafe skate; here is a skate made of one piece of metal on machines designed for the purpose, a strong skate, and so constructed as to be doubly safe and durable.

The heel straps on, the toe locks on with key, providing suitable fastening for rough play with no danger of skate coming off, and for general skating a feeling of firmness and lightness.

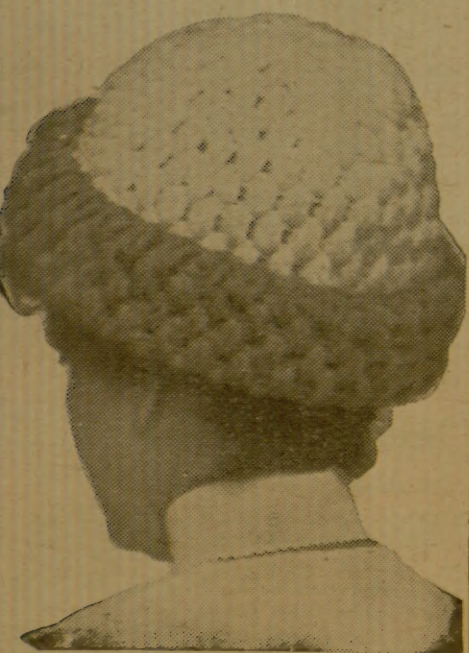
We are introducing these skates throughout the country for the first time, the merit of these skates so appealed to us we have arranged to be supplied at prices enabling us to make a most remarkable

Club Offer: For only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months we send one pair Skates mail or express paid. Adult sizes 9-10-11, also Children's sizes. State size required or give length of shoe or age.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

CROCHETED CAP.

Warmth Without Weight.



LADIES' and MISSES' WARM WOOL CAP
For Every Outdoor Wear.

Riding, walking, skating, for school, play and every genuine use a most suitable winter cap. Crocheted from coarse elder-down wool, they are large, thick, but warm without weight. Made in one style with deep roll brim, usually in contrasting color, they are the most satisfactory head-wear of the kind yet devised and thousands are wearing them. Many pleasing color combinations are made, but plainer colors prevail in adult sizes, all white, white and gray, or tan with blue are popular, while the smaller sizes are made in contrasting colors too numerous to mention. We strive to furnish the most popular colors and will use our judgment in filling orders unless you express a preference.

CLUB OFFERS: An adult cap (full size), as illustrated, made of genuine elder-down wool sent for a club of six 15-month subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each. A Misses' Cap of same materials for only four 15-month subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each. State size and color preferred. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

AMERICAS MOST FAMOUS SONGS

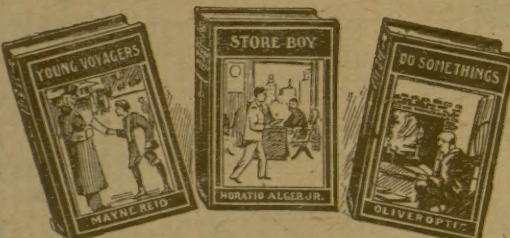


Afterwards; Alice, Where Art Thou? America; Annie Laurie; Auld Lang Syne; The Battle Cry of Freedom; Battle Hymn of the Republic; Believe Me, If All These Endearing Young Charms; Ben Bolt; Blue Bells of Scotland; Benny Doon; Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean; Coming Thro' the Rye; Dixie's Land; Flies as a Bird; Flow Gently, Sweet Afton; Forsaken; The Gypsy's Warning; Glory, Glory, Hallelujah! Hail Columbia; Harp That Once Through Tarah's Halls; The Heart Bowed Down; Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still; Home, Sweet Home; How Can I Leave Thee; I Dreamt That I Dwellt in Marble Halls; In the Gloaming; Jesus, Lover of My Soul; Juanita; Kathleen Mavourneen; Killarney; Last Rose of Summer; Listen to the Mocking Bird; Long, Long Ago; Marching Through Georgia; Maryland, My Maryland; Massa's in the Cold, Cold Ground; The Minstrel Boy; My Country, 'Tis of Thee; My Old Kentucky Home; Nearer, My God, to Thee; Old Black Joe; Old Folks at Home; The Old Oaken Bucket; The Prisoner's Hope; Rallying Song; The Red, White and Blue; Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep; Rock of Ages; Soldier's Farewell; The Star Spangled Banner; Sweet and Low; Then You'll Remember Me; Tramp, Tramp, Tramp; Way Down Upon the Suwannee River; When Johnnie Comes Marching Home; When the Swallows Homeward Fly; When You and I Were Young, Maggie; Within a Mile of Edinboro Town; Yankee Doodle.

Think of the many songs in the above list that are dear to you, and the others you have or wish to preserve. The Album of Sixty Songs (words and full score of each) comprises seventy pages eight and one-half by eleven inches, with a decorated colored cover, an ornament to Piano, Organ or Table.

Until the limited quantity we now own at sacrifice prices is exhausted, we will send one copy at the following liberal offers:

Club Offer: Send only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, for one copy America's Famous Songs. If you are already a subscriber, send 35 cents for six months' renewal and one copy free.

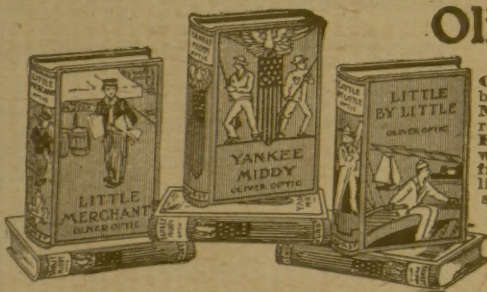


Choice Books for Boys

Twenty-six selected stories for Boys, a list which includes essential books for every boy, such stories as "A Man Without a Country," by the late Dr. Edward Everett Rich, who was so many years the Chaplain of the United States Senate, such stories as this and others make patriotic sturdy citizens, teach splendid thoughts, and ideas that elevate and cultivate the young mind. The series also comprise many other books of general interest and importance to young men. At a profitable selection of six or more can be readily made from the list and as Birthday and Christmas Gift Books, they cannot be equalled. These books are each 6 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches and one inch thick, printed from large clear type, and good quality paper, bound in cloth, with lithographed colored covers, and embossed decoration. Following is full list of titles:

Child's History of England, Charles Dickens.
Do and Dare, Horatio Alger, Jr.
Do Somethings, Oliver Optic.
Down the Rio Grande, Canfield.
Fairy Land of Science, Buckley.
Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World, E.S. Creasy.
Five Hundred Dollars, H. Alger, Jr.
Following the Flag, Charles Carlton Coffin.
Fun with Magic, Geo. Brunel.
Man Without a Country, Edward Everett Hale, with Introduction by E. S. Ellis.
My Days and Nights on the Battlefield, Charles Carlton Coffin.
Robin Hood and His Merry Men.

Club Offer: For a club of only two 15-month subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send, post-paid, any one book from above list. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Oliver Optic's Books

Description of this author or his books is unnecessary. **Optic Books** for younger readers have for generations been the leaders. His "Boat Club" and "Army and Navy Series" are perhaps his best known series. Many readers of COMFORT will recall with pleasure "Charlie's Fortune," recently published serially in COMFORT, and will be interested in this opportunity to obtain other stories from this writer. We can now offer the following splendid list of twenty-two titles comprising a complete new series of Optic Books in Uniform Bindings, printed on good quality paper, from new type plates bound in colored cloth, stamped in colored inks, with embossed title in gold letters. Each book is 7x3 1/2 inches and one inch or more thick, comprising upwards of 300 printed pages. The following list of titles comprise the **Oliver Optic Series**.

Outward Bound; or, Young America Afloat.
Poor and Proud; or, The Fortunes of Katie Redburn.
Prison and Lazy; a Story for Little Folks.
Rich and Humble; or, The Mission of Bertha Grant.
Sailor Boy; or, Jack Somers in the Navy.
Soldier Boy; or, Tom Somers in the Army.
Try Again; or, The Trials and Triumphs of Harry West.
Watch and Wait; or, The Young Fugitives.
Work and Win; or, Noddy Newman on a Cruise.
The Yankee Middy; or, The Adventures of a Naval Officer.
Young Lieutenant; or, The Adventures of an Army Officer.

Club Offer: For a club of 3 15-month subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send any one of above titles post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



LIBRARY OF BEST BOOKS FOR GIRLS

Consisting of many selected stories suited to younger readers. The most fascinating stories from old juvenile writers arranged in a series of books making an unequalled library as a whole, any single one being desirable. Such writers as Alcott, Meade, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and others enjoying equal fame as writers of good wholesome stories suitable for young girls. Each book is 6 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches and nearly an inch thick, has lithographed colored cover design, bound in cloth, and printed on best paper in large clear type. Little Folks' Books but not little books. Following is a complete list of thirty-eight titles:

Little Rosebud, Beatrice Harraden.
Merry Girls of England, Meade.
A Modern Cinderella, L. M. Alcott.
Moods, Louisa M. Alcott.
Palace Beautiful, L. T. Meade.
Polly a New-Fashioned Girl, L. T. Meade.
Prince of the House of David, J. H. Ingraham.
Six Little Princesses, Mrs. Prentiss.
Stepping Heavenward, Prentiss.
Sweet Girl Graduate, L. T. Meade.
Tales from Shakespeare, Charles & Mary Lamb.
Tanglewood Tales, Hawthorne.
The Little Mother, L. T. Meade.
Through the Looking-Glass, Carroll.
Tiny's Sunday Nights, E. Stuart Phelps.
Uncle Tom's Cabin, H. B. Stowe.
Water Babies, Charles Kingsley.
Wonder Book, Hawthorne.
World of Girls, L. T. Meade.

We will send, post-paid, any one of the above books for a club of only 2 fifteen-month subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SPECIAL GIFT SET, 120 DESIGNS FREE

STAMPING OUTFIT OF 120 ARTISTIC DESIGNS
With complete instructions for doing embroidery
And Materials used in transferring patterns

A wonderful assortment that will be suitable for your own use, useful for Holiday and other gift purposes, or for those depending on fine needlework for their pin-money, an extensive lay-out, superior to anything ever offered will be given.

These designs and subjects are beautiful and high class, selected with extreme care and an asset in any home where embroidery is a feature.

Besides those here illustrated, this offer includes a twenty-inch centerpiece, seven-inch round and twelve-inch oval doilies, basket of strawberries, extensive variety of scalloped edges including forget-me-not and fleur-de-lis designs, corners for table covers, borders, large and small scrolls, case marked "Handkerchiefs," alphabet in two sizes, stock, Dutch collar, waist design, two belts, thirty-two individual designs including holly, morning glory, sprays of leaves, carnations, lily-of-the-valley, etc., also chickens and shell, Dutch dancers, crossed guns, crossed dumb-bells, crossed knife and fork for tray cloth, anchor, etc.

We make it possible for those unfamiliar with the art of embroidery to become finished workers, as well as assisting those who are already skilled, by including in this grand offer a book that teaches the details of twenty-five different embroidery stitches besides giving clear-cut illustrations.

Also, a quantity of composition used in transferring designs to material, together with stamping pad and a seven-inch embroidery hoop.

Do not hesitate to send for this "Gift Set" containing a design for every purpose. It is truly a bargain offer, for we mail it to you free, if you will send us two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for 15 months.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Gentlemen's Garter



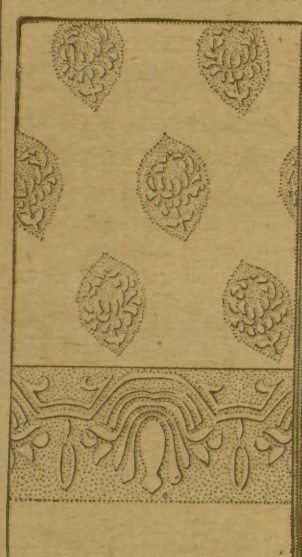
Here is perfection in hose supporters for men, young men and boys.

Superior quality elastic webbing, rustless nicked brass mounting, no metal touches the skin.

Improved flat clasp fastening avoids bunches or humps to annoy or fret the wearer, made in assorted colors, elastic lisle webbing. A perfect man's garter usually sells at 25 cents, while we give away free this better one and send it to you post-paid guaranteeing complete satisfaction. Ladies will appreciate this opportunity to procure one or more sets for Birthday or Christmas gifts.

Special Offer: Send us only subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents, for one pair of Gentlemen's Garters. Bona-fide new subscription only accepted. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Brocade Huckaback Towels

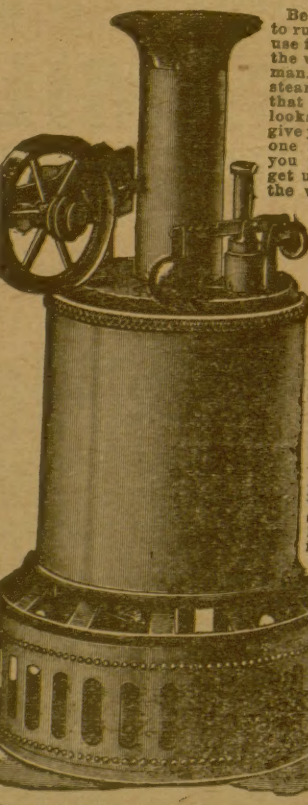


Beautiful new Jacquard designs. Large, pure white Towels of excellent quality. Of superior domestic material these Towels in every way are the equal in quality and are an exact imitation of highest grade German Towels selling at 60 cents and 75 cents each. Size 19x35 inches, full bleached are white as snow, a pair of these beautiful towels are a satisfaction to the eye. Not only delightful Toilet Towels but are adapted to use as stand or bureau covers, tray cloths, etc., etc. The illustration gives a splendid idea of the border and figure, shows the design distinctly and we can positively guarantee entire satisfaction in use and laundering qualities. Send for one pair at least, then order others.

Club Offer: Send only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months for one pair Brocade Huckaback Towels. We send post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Real Steam Engine FREE.

EVERY BOY AN ENGINEER.



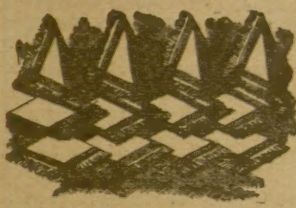
Be an engineer, learn to run an engine, how to use fuel, oil up and blow the whistle, just like the man. You never saw a steam engine in your life that you didn't like the looks of. Now here we give you a chance to have one all your own that you put on a table and get up steam and blow the whistle and watch the wheels go round fast or slow just as you wish, and every lad you know will be green with envy.

A Genuine Yankee Engine has the following parts and can be taken down and put up as often as you wish: Cylinder with Spring, Balance Wheel, Drive Wheel, Smoke Stack,

Whistle, Com-pare, Boiler with Heater, stands 8 inches high, highly finished in enamel and nickel, a jim-dandy engine and guaranteed to run. With this engine you can run all kinds of toy machines you can buy or make for yourself: with spoons, etc. Great fun to make toy machinery using string for belt-ing. We want every young man to have an engine; the practical side of life is well demonstrated to any youth that interests himself; so we give for the balance of the season and to get new subscriptions one engine as a reward for sending us a club of only 4 15-month subscribers to COMFORT at the special subscription rate of 25 cents.

This small club amounting to \$1.00 pays for the full subscription for the 4 addresses and obtains a prize Engine delivered prepaid by mail or express carefully packed and fully warranted. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

TABLE NAPKINS



What an acceptable gift is a dozen white napkins for the dining table. A clean fresh napkin gives a relish and delight to the table that nothing else will. There is nothing more appealing to the husband than his wife's effort to serve his meals temptingly. Table linen goes far to meet this effect and it will be a great pleasure for you to possess a set of one dozen of these superior quality napkins. It matters not how many you may have in use, a few more will be acceptable and can be saved for "best" or when you have visitors. Rich is the housewife who has a large quantity of fine table linen, and the privilege of adding a few pieces free of any cost must appeal to our lady readers.

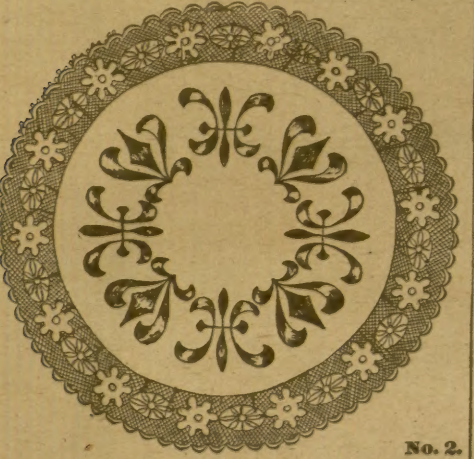
Club Offer. We will send you post-paid a set of 12 napkins for a club of 5 15 mo. subscribers at 25 cents each.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

20-INCH ART CRASH CENTERPIECES



No. 1.

Ready for immediate use. The unusually attractive designs or patterns are stenciled in harmonious colors on Linen Colored Art Crash. If you wish, they may be finished with a flat hem, coarse lace or beading, giving something entirely new in a table centerpiece, serving as an attractive background for your ornaments or lamps. Twenty inches across, and by using wide, coarse lace may be made larger, if desirable.



No. 2.

Linen Crashes are now more in favor than white; send for both, one anyway.
Special Offer. Send only two 15-months 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT for both Centerpieces. One given for a 25-cent 15-months subscription with 10 cents extra for postage, 35 cents in all. Order by number.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Aluminum 5-Piece Cooking Set



The Roaster

The two larger pans set together make an every day roaster and baker for every day meals. It is just the light, handy size for constant use. It doesn't take the place of the bigger roaster that is got for the company occasions and then put on the shelf until the next time, but it is just the thing for the daily dinner roast.

By using an ordinary pie plate as a shelf this roaster is converted into a beautiful steamer for the warming-over foods, steaming bread, and a hundred uses the clever housewife will develop for it. Those accustomed to aluminum utensils at once see the advantage of this set.

The Cereal Cooker

The three two-quart pans set together (see cut) make a unique cereal cooker. This cooker has the advantage of utilizing the heat of both the water boiling under the food pan, also the heat of the steam surrounding and permeating the food. It saves 75 per cent. of the fuel.

CLUB OFFER. Send only eight subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for fifteen months for either set, the Roaster or the Cereal Cooker, or 14 subscriptions for both sets. Shipped at our expense.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NEW STYLE Turquoise, Garnet and Emerald Rings
Another COMFORT Scoop

A quantity of special new Rings came to us through slackening of retail trade. High-grade and high-priced jewelry forced onto the market through failure of a big city retailer to accept his order when ready for delivery. The money panic caused a quick slump in retail trade, goods ordered for a continuance of prosperity, trade could not be handled, manufacturers were confronted with a peculiar proposition, their product could not be delivered. There was no demand. COMFORT'S buyer obtains a splendid price concession enabling us to distribute these new pattern rings as premiums so that you obtain them free for very small clubs. Please read our descriptive matter carefully, keeping constantly in mind the extra value obtainable only through these peculiar conditions.



GENTLEMAN'S THREE STONE RING

This new pattern man's Ring has a three-stone setting. An engraved round band in which are three genuine garnets. The great beauty of this Ring cannot be half represented by this illustration, so you must take our word for it, that this is a very rich, standing ring with all the characteristics of a heavy, man's ring. The gold band is guaranteed to wear five years without change of color or form, and the stones of course will not change, nor can they be lost, being set half enclosed with no slender prongs to loosen. A most suitable gentleman's ring; can be furnished in all sizes—for youth, young or old men, sizes range from 6 to 11.

Club Offer. Send us only 10 15-mos. subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for one of these 15-mos. Stone Gentleman's Rings, with three perfectly cut Garnets. State size or send finger measurement.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Your Choice of Three Rings For a Club of Five.

LADIES' TURQUOISE FINGER RING

Examine carefully this illustration of our new and popular Turquoise Ring. A dainty creation of the ring makers, a positive success and a decided addition to the display of any well-dressed, well-gowned lady. There is now a popular fad for the pretty Blue Turquoise; not strange then this Ring is so much sought. A graceful, pretty Ring, a pleasure for every lady to possess and wear, being so very fashionable. Could we exhibit one of these Rings before your eyes, you would certainly go into ecstasy over it.



EIGHT STONE FINGER RING

A beautiful Ring made more beautiful by the unique mount and finish. Difficult as it is to display this Ring and do justice to it, our illustration conveys an acceptable idea of the arrangement of the eight stones showing how they are mounted to give the stylish narrow band effect now sought in Ladies' Rings. You may have your choice of Garnet, Emerald, or Opal.

FOR A LADY OR GENTLEMAN

Lion's Head Set with Rhinestone. A fashionable Ring now worn in preference to a signet or initial ring. Our illustration represents the clear cut of the Lion's Head with mouth wide open; a real Cut Rhinestone held between the jaws, the design runs off into a scroll at either side. Finished in Rose or dull gold, it is a captivating Ring for anyone. This beautiful Ring is a splendid production reflecting credit on the skillful ring-maker and his art. Made only in this Lion's Head pattern with the brilliant Rhinestone, or Diamond White Sparkler in all sizes from 6 to 11.

Club Offer. Your choice of any one of the three above described Rings will be sent free as a premium reward for club of only 5 15-mos. subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each. Please send size or finger measurement, and remember that for five years we warrant these Rings. You run no risk when you order as you actually obtain free a splendid value.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Indestructible Sanitary, Useful

This Cooking Set is designed to be of constant practical value. It is a used-every meal, never off-the-stove set, and consists of five pure aluminum pans—plain pans that can be used for all ordinary purposes. Three of them have a capacity of two quarts each, the other two of three quarts each. Besides being useful as pans these five pieces comprise two special sets that give more genuine satisfaction in the kitchen than any other utensils.



Plain Band Baby Ring



In preference to our Baby, Pet and Darling engraved Baby Rings many prefer a plain gold band. In response to this demand we have just added this new number to our premium list and now offer you a real gold ring for Baby that is dignified and beautiful, will wear indefinitely and give entire satisfaction.
Club Offer. Send a club of only two new subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. We will send the ring in a cute box, post-paid.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Heart Signet Stone Ring



Just a dear little ring for the young ladies. Small in design and treatment, made exclusively for the young miss, not ready for older styles or advanced customs. The band is slightly engraved near the heart center, which is mounted with a tiny sparkling white stone chip. Little ladies from seven to seventeen are more fond of finger rings than their splendid selection, is made up of good quality material, with gold enough to wear for years, yet not expensive.
Club Offer. A club of only three 15-months 25-cent subscriptions secures one of these mounted Signet Rings in a neat little ring box.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

STONE SIGNET GOLD RING



Introduced this season for first time and at once displaces old style initial signet ring. Stone mounting of every kind are now worn exclusively. Nearly all rings except plain band now are given the added touch of a stone of some kind. This engraved ring has artistic lines, is heavy and durable, a new style in every way, enhanced in beauty by the single imitation chip diamond setting in center. This is a swell ring for young ladies, or old; it can be worn as a man's ring with taste. One of, if not the best of our new rings.

Club Offer. Send only four subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, and give finger size. We will send ring at once in an attractive ring box.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

GENTLEMAN'S STONE RING



The newest design and one of the most popular man's ring yet marketed. In a flat Belcher setting, is mounted an imitation diamond. Not much to say in blank type, but the ring cannot be described fittingly nor its brilliant display. The unique and finishing touch to this mounting is in the treatment of the stone. The top or front is cut with many facets, as a regular diamond, then the back is treated or coated with real platinum, the result is a brilliancy and sparkle only equaled by a genuine diamond of tremendous cost. A genuine diamond is not more brilliant, only more expensive. This is a desirable ring, sturdy in make up and appearance, a ring any gentleman will be proud to wear, and an excellent gift ring.

Club Offer. For a club of only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months we will send one of these Gentleman's Belcher setting stone rings, in a lined ring box, postpaid. Send size or finger measurement.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Solid Gold Wedding Ring



The genuine article. No sham, no substitute, this is a genuine Gold Ring, as such we advertise and guarantee it. Our illustration merely shows the general style, a wide, heavy band ring for either ladies or gentlemen, it is in proper size and style today. If you are about to be, or are married, and require a real wedding ring this is an unusual opportunity to procure the correct thing in a ring and at a reasonable cost. We fully and we unequivocally guarantee this Wedding Ring to be genuine solid gold, not rolled, plated or gold shell or other ingenious imitation. Your money back at any time, so don't go to store-keepers and pay enormous profits but avail yourself of our

Club Offer. For a club of only eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you one of these genuine Solid Gold Wedding Rings in a plush-lined ring box. Send finger measurement.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Fancy Chased and Plain Band Gold Shell Finger Rings.



Newest designs of chasing and correct widths. For persons of all ages; a refined and dignified ring worn on all occasions. They are 14K gold plate, will wear a long time.
CLUB OFFER. For 25 15-mo. subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send you your choice of one of these rings. Send finger measurement.

Gold Band Wedding Ring.

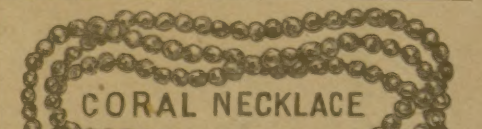
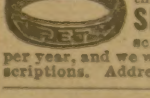
A suitable wedding ring most used for the occasion. It is a heavy band ring of 14K gold plate wears long and satisfactorily. Many years have they been used as wedding rings, the quality is the best and you may be assured you will not regret having selected one if you order today.
CLUB OFFER. We send one in a plush lined box free of all expense for a club of four 15-months subscribers at 25 cents each. Send finger measurement.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Baby's First Ring



The Little Darling Surely Wants One Now

These are baby sizes only and are designed for the little one's tiny fingers. Each is heavily embossed with the words BABY, PET or DARLING, just as you prefer. Made in one style only, the regular hoop or band ring of 14 karat gold filled, and will not tarnish. The demand for children's and babies' sizes has encouraged us to have this special line made up for our particular customers and we are delighted with the patrons. They will please the parents of every lovely baby. Mamas and Papas, also friends, will find this an excellent privilege of obtaining the first ring for baby. We can promise satisfaction in fit if a bit of string or ribbon is sent showing size of the little finger. We will pack the ring in a cutting plush-lined box and you will be delighted with the whole.
SPECIAL OFFER. 2 15-mos. subscribers to this monthly at 25 cents each per year, and we will send a ring same day and enter subscriptions. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Every Girl or Woman delights to possess a real coral Necklace. The genuine Neapolitan article is so very expensive that few can afford one. This necklace looks so much like the real thing that many think they are, so perfect in coloring of the Italian Wonder. It is a triple strand beautifully polished delicate coral pink necklace of just the proper shade to give it the most expensive appearance. We have but a limited number which we can give as premiums to all who get up clubs of 2 15-months subscribers at 25c. each.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FULLY DRESSED ESKIMO DOLL

Says "Mama" very plainly and lifelike by simply moving slightly forward. No strings to pull or buttons to press.

Tremendous Sensation ! Extremely Popular !

These new Eskimo Dolls are in enormous demand in all the cities and the most popular Doll for small and grown-up children. Nothing like it ever before on the market.

Doll stands over a foot tall and has arms and legs that are jointed firmly at shoulders and hips. The head moves to either side, working the movements easy and something that will not become unfastened with hard use by young children. The cute face with its pretty smile is made from special celluloid and no danger of breaking can positively come to this beautiful Doll.

Dressed in Eskimo Long Plush, with Muff and Hat decorated with Ribbons. Feet and hands are securely attached and represent the Eskimo idea of dress. Nothing loose to get out of order or broken in five minutes' rough pulling about.

You will be surprised to hear this elegant Doll say "Mama" by simply tipping it slightly forward. There has never before been anything to come up to this Talking Doll and the inventor richly deserves his reward for the perfect tone and lifelike actual baby cry of "Mama." It is perfect. The cute little Muff, with ribbon and cord around neck, Eskimo Hood of plush, the warm, nicely fitting Mittens and Eskimo serviceable Boots all combine to make this Doll the finest possible present for some dear one.

Big Free Offer !

Send only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months for an Eskimo Mama Doll as above described. We send same at our expense.
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



SOUTH ROYALTON, VT.
WILBUR STOCK FOOD COMPANY, MILWAUKEE, WIS-CONSIN.

GENTLEMEN:
The Stock Tonic that you sent me several weeks ago works to perfection, as my stock is in much better condition with less grain than when I commenced to feed it.
Yours respectfully, FRANK RAND.

WILBUR STOCK FOOD COMPANY, MILWAUKEE, WIS-CONSIN.

GENTLEMEN:—Enclosed find draft for \$13.00 in payment for Stock Tonic. I have used two pails of your Stock Tonic; it is certainly fine. I have used almost everything on the market, but nothing to compare with the Wilbur Stock Tonic. My milk cows, calves, hogs and colts,

after feeding three days, I noticed the change. It has saved me many a sack of grain. My horses are slick and nice, also are working hard every day.

Will enclose watch certificate and thanking you for past favors, I am, Yours very truly,
Kremmling, Colo.

(Signed) CASPER SCHWAB.

WILLIAMSBURG, OHIO.

WILBUR STOCK FOOD COMPANY, MILWAUKEE, WIS-CONSIN.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:—I have used Wilbur Stock Tonic and can say I will use it as long as I have any stock, whatever kind it may be, to feed. Feed your chickens, and you get more eggs; feed your horse, and he will do more work;

feed your cow and she will give more milk; feed your hog and he will give more pounds of pork, and to make a long story short, you can't afford to be without it. So please hurry my five pail order to me. Sincerely yours,
JAMES J. WAGNER.

ARCADIA, OKLAHOMA.

WILBUR STOCK FOOD COMPANY, MILWAUKEE, WIS-CONSIN.

GENTLEMEN:—Received my watch in good condition and was surprised to find it so nice, and I appreciate it very much. It has kept good time ever since I got it and don't see how you could have sent it.

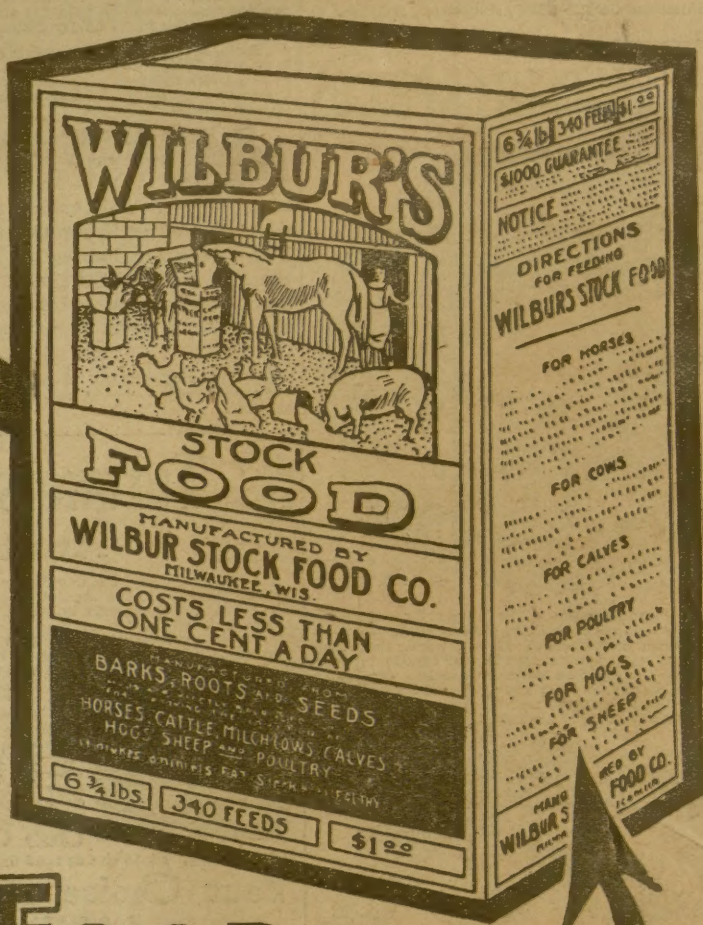
I think your Stock Tonic is the best made. Have used several different kinds of Stock Tonic, but never found any that will do as much as

yours. I have sold ten pigs (would have been six months old the middle of February) and they weighed 200 pounds apiece. Some wanted to know how I fattened them and what I fed them that made them grow so fast, and, of course, I had to tell them it was Wilbur Stock Tonic.

I have seven head of horses and they are rolling fat. When I hitch them up they are so high-lived, that I can hardly do anything with them. They are always up and ready to go. Everybody wants to know what keeps them in such good condition and I tell them it is your Stock Tonic that does it. I have a team that is equal to your champion team on your envelopes. They are fine and eat Stock Tonic three times a day. I thank you for your past favors and remain,
Your agent,
W. M. RANDLE.

FREE

This Big \$1.00 Box OF WILBUR'S STOCK FOOD



Simply clip out the coupon and mail to me at once.
Not one cent to pay—not one thing to do.

I want to give you this big 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. box of my Stock Food absolutely FREE. I want you to feed it to your horses, your cattle, your hogs, your sheep and your poultry. I want you to know for yourself why Wilbur's Stock Food is fed by over 500,000 farmers and stockmen. Why it saves feed—prevents disease and doubles your profits.

Send Me No Money—Not Even a Stamp—This Big Box of Stock Food Costs You Nothing

Not one cent now or at any other time do I want for this big \$1.00 box. Contains 340 feeds—enough for a good practical feeding test. I know that every stock-raiser who tries this free \$1.00 box will continue to use my Food. That's why I can afford this great free offer—that's why I am ready to send one million free boxes to one million American farmers.

Is it worth a two-cent stamp to write for my big free \$1.00 box? Do you want to double your profits and save your live stock? If so, clip out the coupon and mail today.

65

Wilbur's Stock Food builds up run down horses—cleans the blood, softens the stomach. Revitalizes the entire system and positively prevents all disease.

My food doubles the milk and butter when fed to milch cows, fattens hogs and beef cattle for market in 40 days less time. Prevents scours when fed to sheep.

As a poultry raiser and egg maker it has no equal—makes strong, healthy chicks, doubles the egg supply, and absolutely prevents Pip, Roup, Gapes, Bowel Trouble and all Poultry Disease.

\$1,000.00 IN GOLD

Given Away in Cash Prizes

We will give away 127 Cash Prizes from \$1.00 to \$500.00 each to users of Wilbur's Stock Food this season. YOU may win the big \$500.00 First Prize. We will send you full details of this Great Prize Offer if you send the coupon for the Free Box of Stock Food or write us at once.

Fill out and mail the coupon today.

E. B. Marshall
President

WILBUR STOCK FOOD CO.
334 Huron Street,
Milwaukee, Wis.

OUR CASH GUARANTEE

We will pay \$1000.00 cash to any person who proves this offer of a FREE \$1.00 box is not exactly as advertised.

\$1.00 FREE BOX COUPON

E. B. MARSHALL, Pres.,
Wilbur Stock Food Co.,
334 Huron St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Please send me the FREE \$1.00 box of Wilbur's Stock Food; also full particulars of free cash prizes.

I own _____ horses _____ cattle _____ hogs _____ poultry.

My Name _____

P. O. _____ R. F. D. _____

Freight Sta. _____ State _____